EAST BAY EXPRESS

JUNE 25-JULY 1, 2014 THE EAST BAY'S INDEPENDENT WEEKLY BAYEXPRESS.COM

HUNTING WITH A RAT

What happens when the leader of one of Oakland's most notorious motorcycle clubs tries to convince a squeamish reporter to shoot a wild boar.

By Kathleen Richards

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On the Cover *Dave Lefthem. Photo by Kathleen Richards.*

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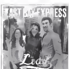
NEWS & OPINION



LETTERS

"[illegible] Empathy?" Opinion 6/11

Believe in Public Schools

Hats off to a wonderful article by a tenth grader at Oakland Tech. Well-written and researched, Sophia Schafer. We chose to send our kids to McChesney Junior High (now Edna Brewer) and to Skyline High School back in the 1980s. Both girls made friends across ethnicities and economic classes and they both have kept these friendships throughout their adult lives. As far as we could tell their academics did not suffer. Both women are contributing to their communities and both vote. They have good, strong values and we don't feel that private school would have made them any more successful or bright than they are. Our eleven-year-old granddaughter is in public school. My husband, who is retired from King Estates Jr. High in Oakland, often runs into his ex students who are active and successful in the community.

We believe in a strong, well-funded public school system, and wish more parents would participate rather than leave. If we all got together on the same page, imagine what we could accomplish. Kudos, Sophie.

Sandi Morey, Oakland

No Diversity-Empathy Connection

I was raised in a small town in Montana in the '70s. In my class there was a black girl and a Hispanic boy. It wasn't until years later that I realized this. We all loved playing together and we did not even know what prejudice was (let alone racism). If you look at the diversity and empathy, I do not see how there is any connection. Diversity is not necessary for empathy. When I was a kid, we had empathy without noticing the differences between us. Of course, we were all poor. So I suppose our racial diversity was greater than our class diversity. Maybe the author is using race as a proxy for class. Now, class is where people could use more empathy, and not just from one side.

Gary Baker, San Leandro

"Little Mokka Takes on Big Starbucks," Local Economy 6/11

Be the Best They Can Be

If Mokka is in fact so well liked by the locals then hopefully an additional coffee shop will just make its owners try harder to be the best they can be. It seems rather arbitrary to not allow another coffee shop within a certain distance of Mokka — if that's what people were really hoping for.

I think the "traffic" issue was a red herring, and Starbucks isn't exactly the "evil empire" anyway. Mokka is going to need to get on with business and be the best coffee shop/sandwich place they can be and they will do well. (Especially since the locals like them so much.)

Chet Shannon, Berkeley

"How [illegible]ts on Telegraph Mean Business," Local Economy 6/11

Healthier Future

I wish these improvements had been completed a few years ago. My decision to buy a car was influenced by the lack of adequate bike facilities on Telegraph, and my health has suffered since. Here's to a healthier, bike-friendly future!

Omar Yacoubi, Oakland

"Electricity May Go Green and Local," Local Economy 6/11

No on AB2145

Thanks for covering the exciting news out of Alameda County. One correction: AB 2145, the utility power grab of 2014, wouldn't "reform" Community Choice, it would destroy it by making it impossible for Community Choice programs to enroll new customers. If East Bay residents want a choice other than PG&E, they should call Senator Alex Padilla (916-651-4020), Chair of the California Senate Energy Committee, and tell him to vote no on AB 2145. You can learn more at No2145.org.

Erica Etelson, Berkeley

"[illegible]," Local Economy 6/11

More Improvements to Come

Measure DD also built the East Oakland Sports Center, was a major contributor to restore Studio One, rebuilt and reconfigured 12th Street (which was seismically unsafe), fixed the crumbling 66th Street pier, added to the Bay Trail, and fixed the Lakeshore pergola. And there is more to come.

Naomi Schiff, Oakland

"Now [illegible] a Mayor," [illegible] 6/11

Fiscally Responsible Candidates

I'm going to vote for the fiscally responsible candidates, meaning Jan Tuman, Courtney Ruby and Bryan Parker, and will never vote for progressive tax-and-spend liberals who have tanked this city.

James Zipetis, Oakland

Finest Public Servant

And out come the shills! Rebecca Kaplan is the finest public servant this city has seen in the twenty or so years I've been here. Finally there's a candidate I'm actually excited to vote for, instead of "yeah, I guess they are okay."

Plus, I'm on the payroll for this race, which means I can say whatever I want.

Cimon Neutron, Oakland

Not Exactly Exciting

"Kaplan's entrance into the race also gives both progressives and moderates plenty of choices to be excited about." Not exactly exciting to this progressive. Maybe Kaplan's entrance makes a great day for the writer. Hope he has a really nice day!

Michele Orle, Oakland

"What's Poisoning the Bees," Feature 6/04

Too Much Blame on Neonics

The article "What's Poisoning the Bees" was well-written and makes many good points, but places too much blame on neonicotinoids as the main cause of current bee problems. The beekeeping community is badly divided on neonics, with many feeling that alternative chemicals would be much harder on bees.

No beekeeper I know of disputes that neonic dust escaping at corn-planting time has caused severe, but isolated bee losses, but steps have been taken to greatly reduce or eliminate this hazard. There are currently a million acres of canola in North Dakota, virtually every plant grown from neonic-treated seed, yet North Dakota bees thrive on canola and North Dakota usually tops all other states in honey production every year. The decline in US honey production shown in your graph does correlate with neonic use, but it also correlates with a significant decline in bee forage, due to widespread planting of corn for ethanol and of soybeans (both poor bee plants). Drought in recent years has also caused a decline in honey production. Conversion of CRP (Conservation Reserve *Program*) land that was formerly good bee habitat has had a significant negative impact on the health of both honeybee and native bee species. The decline in the flower-to-bee ratio in the US in recent years has had a far more devastating effect on bees than neonicotinoids. Perhaps a future article in the *Express* could address this issue. Randy Oliver, a beekeeper/scientist from Grass Valley, has written extensively on bee-pesticide issues, including recent postings on the Harvard neonic study that are posted on his website: ScientificBeekeeping.com.

I agree that there needs to be better evaluation of the hazards of materials before they are brought to market. Pesticides always have been a hazard to bees and always will be, but to imply that they are the main cause of current problems is misleading.

Joe Traynor, Bakersfield

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IT'S TIME FOR CIVILIAN OVERSIGHT OF OPD

We urge the Oakland City Council to place a measure on the November ballot that would create a citizen-run Public Safety Oversight Committee

By Susan Shawl and Robert Oliver

Kyung Jin Lee/File photo

Based on the most recent report issued by federal monitor Robert Warshaw, the Oakland Police Department will most likely require months of additional court monitoring — after eleven years of failure to comply with the Negotiated Settlement Agreement (NSA). No other city in the United States has taken so long to bring its police department into compliance with a federal consent decree.

It is indisputable that the City of Oakland has lacked the ability to hold its police department accountable to the public it is sworn to protect and serve, and that inadequacy has led to the expenditure of many millions of dollars on costly lawsuits, court monitoring, and outside consultants — resources that might have been used to hire additional police officers or meet other critical needs.

The Coalition for Police Accountability, composed of Oakland residents, was formed to address this issue and has drafted a ballot measure to amend the city charter to create a Public Safety Oversight Commission (PSOC). This initiative is being sponsored by City Council Public Safety Committee Chair Noel Gallo and was scheduled to be discussed at its meeting on Tuesday June 24.

Currently the city administrator manages the personnel matters of the Oakland Police Department (OPD) and all other city departments. This authority is granted by the city charter. This initiative would transfer authority to discipline officers found to have violated policy to the PSOC. The PSOC would also make budget and policy recommendations to the mayor and city council for implementation.

This structure is based on the police commission would in Los Angeles and San Francisco. The PSOC would consolidate the staff of the existing Citizens Police Review Board and Community Policing Advisory Board — so no additional taxation would be sought. The mayor and city council members would retain authority to make final decisions concerning the budget, policies, major program initiatives, and the selection of the police chief.

The Oakland police union — the Oakland Police Officers Association (OPOA) — believes that police officers do not need civilian oversight, and that they can adequately police themselves. And for decades, the city's leadership has deferred to this view. The result has been clear: OPD has failed to adhere to the terms of the NSA and complete its mandated reforms within five years, revealing an ingrained resistance to change that has prolonged noncompliance.

The solution we propose protects reforms and best practices by using Oakland citizens — instead of expensive federal court monitors — to oversee the implementation of structural change in OPD policy, practice, and fiscal management. If the city's residents and leaders do not install adequate civilian oversight of OPD, we may find ourselves going "back to the future," with further expensive lawsuits and misconduct settlements after the NSA is concluded.

These issues are critical. Neglecting the need to create adequate local mechanisms of police oversight for so many years has resulted in massive, prolonged expenses that Oakland simply can't afford. The city council owes it to the residents, its constituents, to allow them to choose in November whether or not to adopt this long-overdue corrective measure.

Two years ago, citizens groups proposed a similar measure. But our circumstances are very different now. In 2012, we didn't have the time and the organization to get the ball rolling. In addition, a Public Safety Oversight Committee, if it would have been created back then, would have run afoul of the OPOA's contract with the city. But we believe that issue is no longer a roadblock.

OPD HAS FAILED TO ADHERE TO THE TERMS OF THE NSA AND COMPLETE ITS MANDATED REFORMS WITHIN FIVE YEARS, REVEALING AN INGRAINED RESISTANCE TO CHANGE THAT HAS PROLONGED NON-COMPLIANCE.

The provisions of the current measure, if passed by voters on November 4, 2014, would not take effect until either 180 days after the election or the termination of the NSA. That brings us up to around June 30, 2015, when the current OPOA contract expires. And this charter amendment would preclude any provisions of a new contract between OPOA and the city that would conflict with the language of the measure. ●

Susan Shawl is a former member of the Oakland Civilian Police Review Board. Robert Oliver is a former Oakland police officer.

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SEVEN DAYS

KAPLAN STUMBLES OUT OF THE GATE

The newest mayoral candidate mishandles a proposed lease deal for the A's as her past missteps with a shady political campaign come to light.

By Robert Gammon

Based on recent polling, it looked as if Councilmember Rebecca Kaplan would be an instant frontrunner should she decide to run for mayor of Oakland this year. And now that she's officially entered the race, she may very well be one of the top tier candidates. But if last week is any indication, Kaplan's path to the mayor's office could turn out to be rocky considering the missteps she made involving a flawed lease deal for the A's at the Coliseum and her past involvement with a now-defunct political campaign that appears to have violated local and state election laws.

Of the two problems, the proposed lease extension for the A's could prove to be more costly for East Bay residents. Under the deal, which Kaplan helped broker, Alameda County and the City of Oakland would forgive the $5 million that the A's owe the Coliseum in back rent. The A's would then take that money and use it to help finance a new scoreboard, which is expected to cost at least $10 million. In other words, the deal effectively calls for city and county taxpayers to spend $5 million on a scoreboard at the Coliseum.

Now, it's true that the current scoreboard is out of date and in general disrepair. But it's questionable as to whether it makes sense for a public entity to spend another $5 million to upgrade a facility that Oakland's sports teams want to abandon. After all, the Raiders have made it clear that they'll try to move to another city unless they get a new stadium, while the A's have been trying desperately to leave town for the past decade.

Moreover, it's a safe bet that city and county residents would prefer that the $5 million be spent on vital public services rather than on a scoreboard that would benefit extraordinarily wealthy owners of sports franchises. There's also the principle of allowing the A's to get away with not paying their rent for the past few years. The $5 million that the A's owe is actually parking tax revenues that the team collects from its fans and then deducts from its rent payments to the Coliseum. In other words, the A's have been pocketing cash from their fans without telling them — a move that is not only ethically questionable, but that also appears to violate the team's lease agreement. The dispute is scheduled to go in front of an arbitrator later this year, but it would be surprising if the A's prevail.

In an interview, Kaplan declined to discuss the specifics of the proposed deal, but said it allows the Coliseum Authority — the joint city and county board on which she also serves — to fulfill a "contractual obligation" that it already has. (Kaplan also said that she would not agree to any lease deal with the A's that allows them to keep deducting parking tax revenues from their rent payments.)

Rebecca Kaplan

Kaplan declined to specify the obligation she mentioned, but Coliseum Executive Director Deena McClain said the authority has a contractual obligation to maintain the old scoreboard and fix it when it breaks down.

Although it's possible that the old scoreboard could badly malfunction at any time, and that the repair costs could total $5 million, it's not entirely clear that such a scenario will happen. As a result, agreeing to spend $5 million now on a new scoreboard appears to be a questionable use of public funds, especially considering that the Raiders and A's may both be leaving the Coliseum in five to seven years.

So why do A's owners Lew Wolff and John Fisher want to spend at least $5 million of their own money on a new scoreboard that they may only use for a half-decade? It's all about profit. Under the A's lease deal, the team gets to keep all advertising revenue at the Coliseum, and those revenues will soar with a new scoreboard, allowing Wolff and Fisher to quickly recoup their investment.

Another troubling aspect of the proposed lease deal is that it allows the A's to leave Oakland at any time with just one year's notice. But that deal point is not Kaplan's doing, it's a problem created by the Raiders. The Raiders and the current developers of Coliseum City, for some unexplained reason, want to build the new football stadium on the same spot as the Coliseum. Their plan, as a result, would force both the Raiders and the A's to leave Oakland for three years or so while new facilities are built for both teams. The Raiders would play in Santa Clara at the 49ers new stadium, while the A's would likely play at AT&T Park in San Francisco. The deal also would require the city and county to immediately pay off the remaining bond debt owed on the old Coliseum.

That's an extraordinarily bad idea, and the city and county should not agree to it. There's no reason why the Raiders can't build a new stadium on the existing parking lot next door so that they and the A's can keep playing at the Coliseum during construction.

As for Kaplan's other misstep — the shady political campaign — it reveals poor decision-making on her part, and raises concerns about her ethics. As reported by the *Oakland Tribune* on Sunday, Kaplan has decided to disband a ballot measure committee that she established four years ago after it came to light that the committee had paid a staffer who worked solely on her 2010 mayoral campaign. Under local and state election laws, it's illegal for a candidate to use ballot measure funds to help his or her own political campaign.

Kaplan, who denies doing anything wrong, was right to kill the ballot measure committee. And she would be smart to back away from the $5 million scoreboard deal as well. ●

Robert.Gammon@EastBayExpress.com

ECO WATCH

CONFUSION REIGNS OVER URBAN GARDENS

Oakland city staffers have been telling residents that they need to pay a $3,000 fee to grow vegetables on blighted lots — but that turns out to be untrue.

By Madeleine Key

Lori Eanes

Desane Williams works in the urban garden that she and her neighbors created in their Fruitvale neighborhood.

Desane Williams and a few of her neighbors in her Fruitvale neighborhood decided they had to do something about it an empty lot that had become a popular site for illegal dumping. In the spring of 2010 they hacked down the weeds that had grown to be five feet tall and cleared the trash that had accumulated on the blighted lot. They then planted twelve fruit trees and some crops. Today, Williams describes the former eyesore as a place in which community members can gather and enjoy the numerous benefits from a thriving urban garden in their neighborhood.

But if Williams had contacted Oakland's Planning Department to inquire about the legality of what she and her neighbors were doing — that is to say, growing food on abandoned private property that they did not own — before last week, city staffers likely would have told them that they were required to apply for a conditional use permit, which would have cost nearly $3,000 and would have taken up to twelve months to be issued. However, it turns out that city staffers have been misinforming residents. According to Planning Department Director Rachel Flynn, growing food on most vacant properties in Oakland has been legal — and is not dependant on getting an expensive permit — since 2011, when the Planning Department last updated city code regarding community gardening.

Yet despite this fact, city staffers have been telling residents and elected officials the exact opposite for the past three years. Indeed, proponents of urban agriculture including City Councilmember Rebecca Kaplan, petitioned the Planning Commission at its June 4 meeting to reevaluate the city's policy because they had been under the mistaken impression that growing an urban garden on any vacant lot required an expensive permit. At that meeting, Zoning Manager Scott Miller then reinforced this misperception when he said, in response to a question from a fellow commissioner about whether crop raising is allowed on vacant lots (as long as the produce isn't for sale): "No, not under today's code. Not without a conditional use permit (CUP). The current interpretation is that you need a CUP to do crop raising as a stand alone principal use." He then added, "It is a significant fee, no doubt about it."

In an interview after the meeting, Flynn said she did not know why staffers have been telling citizens that a conditional use permit was required. "There has been some confusion, I'm not quite sure why," she said. "We've notified all of the planners to make sure everyone is aware of the same information."

Esperanza Pallana, director of the Oakland Food Policy Council (which organized the petition), noted that the council has been actively attempting to work with the city to reduce barriers to growing food — including advocating for the removal of the conditional use permit requirement — for the past three years, without much success. In the summer and fall of 2011, the Planning Department held a series of community meetings — one of which was attended by more than three hundred people — about updating and overhauling the city's antiquated rules regarding urban agriculture and backyard livestock. It has yet to complete that overhaul, however. At the June 4 meeting, Flynn said the department would start to develop the overhaul by September.

The misinformation about the supposed need for an expensive permit has likely blocked many residents from planting urban gardens. "What's particularly ludicrous is the fact that the city is actually paying to maintain lots abandoned by owners," Pallana said. The Food Policy Council is currently compiling data about exactly how much the city has spent to maintain properties that have absentee or neglectful landowners.

As advocates point out, Oakland is particularly well-suited for urban agriculture because of its sunny climate. Plus, there are no shortages of potential sites for community gardening. In a 2012 report, "Evaluating the Feasibility of Urban Agriculture on Oakland's Private Land," UC Berkeley student Stephanie Baker identified 2,961 vacant lots (totaling 1,076 acres of land) that were suitable for farming in Oakland, based on characteristics such as slope, ground cover type, and access to water.

Urban agriculture activists have also been encountering resistance from the city when it comes to accessing public land for growing food for the past few years (see "Oakland Slow to Okay More Public Urban Gardens" June 3).

Flynn said she was not aware of any citizens who had been charged for a conditional use permit application to grow crops on vacant property.

"It just seems too little too late," Pallana wrote in an email. "While I think the planning director has the best intentions and was perhaps unaware of how staff have been approaching this, key staff, however, seem like they are saying, Oops, we are sorry your family hasn't eaten the last four years."

"The Oakland Food Policy Council has encountered ongoing resistance from planning staff," she continued. "I certainly hope that this is a shift to support urban agriculture in Oakland." ●

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ODogParks.org

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EdibleSchoolyard.org

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Alameda County Community Food Bank

We provide food and hope to 1 in 5 Alameda County residents. This year the Food Bank will provide the 22.5 million meals through 240 food pantries and other community organizations to people in need.

ACCFB.org

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Providing free environmental education to urbanites. Many people have very limited knowledge of nature, either of the systems or the flora and fauna that share space with them.

WildOakland.org

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BerkeleySchools.net/cgp

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FeedingSeniors.org

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EastBaySPCA.org

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Coming of Age Bay Area

Looking for a change in your life? "Explore Your Future" is a fun, thought-provoking 4-session self-discovery workshop for people 50+ starting Wednesday, June 4th in Berkeley.

ComingofAge.org/BayArea/ Explore-Your-Future

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51Oakland's mission is to inspire student learning, creativity, hard work, and self esteem by strengthening the role of music and arts education in Oakland Public Schools.

51Oakland.org

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Give Me Shelter Cat Rescue

Every day adult and senior cats with treatable medical and behavior conditions are euthanized. Give Me Shelter's goal is to rescue these cats and place them into loving permanent homes.

GiveMeShelterSF.org

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Norml

NORML works to legalize the responsible use of marijuana by adults and serves as an advocate for marijuana consumers nationwide.

NORML.org

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Community Partners International

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CPIntl.org

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Muttville's mission is to change the way the world thinks about and treats older dogs and to create better lives for them through rescue, foster, adoption and hospice.

Muttville.org

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We partner girls to [illegible] through [illegible] programs, particularly those in high-risk, underserved areas. We serve the whole girl and her family by providing on-site mental health counseling as well. We believe generations are transformed when girls are equipped with knowledge, information and confidence. They grow up strong, smart and bold.

GirlsInc Alameda.org

This listing is sponsored by The Star on Grand and Earth Circles Counseling Center

Americans for Safe Access

Ensures safe and legal access to cannabis (marijuana) for therapeutic uses and research using public education and direct advocacy. ASA also provides legal support and uses impact litigation to protect and expand patients' rights. ASA brings the patient's voice to the table and we shift the debate to the real solutions of patients' legal access to medicine and patients' civil rights.

SafeAccessNow.org

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Asian Art Museum

[illegible] a diverse global audience in discovering [illegible] materials, aesthetics and intellectual achievements of Asian art and cultures and to serve as a bridge of understanding between Asia and the United States and between the diverse cultures of Asia.

AsianArt.org

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St. Vincent de Paul
Alameda County

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul is a nonprofit organization that provides direct assistance to needy men, women and children in Alameda County. They provide hot meals, food pantry, resource center, books, clothing, job training, laundry, help desk, and more.

svdp-alameda.org

This listing is sponsored by Dr. Sharon Albright, DDS

National Multiple Sclerosis Society

The cause of MS is still unknown — scientists believe the disease is triggered by as-yet-unidentified environmental factor(s) in a person who is genetically predisposed to respond. We inform about options for managing symptoms, treatments, coordination of healthcare, and living well with MS.

NationalMSSociety.org/CAN

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Marine Mammal Center

We are a volunteer research-based hospital and educational center dedicated to the rescue and rehabilitation of ill and injured marine mammals — primarily elephant seals, harbor seals and California sea lions. Since 1975 we've rescued and treated more than 18,000 marine mammals.

MarineMammalCenter.org

Autism Speaks

We are the world's leading autism science and advocacy organization, dedicated to funding research into the causes, prevention, treatments and a cure for autism; increasing awareness of autism spectrum disorders; and advocating for their needs.

AutismSpeaks.org

This listing is sponsored by Spenger's Fresh Fish Grotto

Oakland Grown

We support and advocate for the growth and development of small, independent businesses and artists; encourage local purchasing by residents, businesses, and artists; and create opportunities for networking and sharing.

OaklandGrown.org

Berkeley Free Clinic

We were founded as a "street medicine" clinic that quickly has served countless thousands in a variety of ways during its 40 year history. Fees have never been charged for any services, materials, medications or supplies provided.

BerkeleyFreeClinic.org

Citizen Schools

We partner with underserved public middle schools to provide a longer learning day, during which we engage volunteers from the community to teach our students their professional and personal expertise.

CitizenSchools.org

Operation Dignity

We are veteran and service-enriched provider serving the homeless veterans and displaced populations of Alameda County. Our goal is to provide safe housing, nutritious meals, and a full array of support so they can begin their rehabilitation process.

OperationDignity.org

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East Bay Food Not Bombs

We serve [illegible], give away our surplus food and fresh picked farmers market donations at [illegible] Park in Oakland. We cook in solidarity with other progressive groups at countless demonstrations, cultural events and gatherings over the years.

EBFNB.org

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FORMER DA'S TESTIMONY COULD PROVE COSTLY FOR TAXPAYERS

Ex-Contra Costa County District Attorney Robert Kochly appears to have credibility problems in testimony he provided in a bogus rape case

By John Geluardi

Michael Gressett. Chris Duffey/File photo

Sworn testimony by Robert Kochly, the former district attorney of Contra Costa County who is being sued by a well-known prosecutor for his role in bringing bogus rape charges in an alleged political scheme, could prove costly for taxpayers. In his testimony, Kochly comes across as a bumbling and indecisive administrator according to court documents, and attorneys in the case say his answers to questions asked under oath lacked credibility.

Kochly is the lead defendant in a multimillion-dollar lawsuit brought by Michael Gressett, one of his former prosecutors, who claims that Kochly conspired with his top two administrators — ex-prosecutors Brian Baker and Paul Sequeira — to maliciously go after him for the 2008 alleged rape of a co-worker, Holly Harpham, then a junior prosecutor in the DA's office. Contra Costa County is also a defendant in the case.

Veteran prosecutor Gressett, 57, initially filed the federal lawsuit in 2012 shortly after a judge dismissed the criminal charges against him. In his lawsuit, Gressett alleges that Kochly and his top administrators targeted him as part of a nasty campaign tactic designed to boost the political fortunes of Kochly's chosen successor, former prosecutor and judge Dan O'Malley, and to sling mud not only at Gressett, but also at veteran prosecutor Mark Peterson, who supervised Gressett and was a candidate for DA in the 2010 election against O'Malley. Three county investigators are also named as defendants.

In his deposition, taken in April, Kochly depicts himself as a fatigued, disengaged, and indecisive leader during the largest and most lurid public scandal in the history of the DA's office. Kochly's testimony also raises questions about his lack of action when the rape allegations were first made in May 2008 and whether he knowingly withheld evidence from a criminal grand jury that a secret, and still unexplained, $450,000 payment had been made to Harpham.

The case is expected to go to trial next year. Gressett's attorney, Gary Gwilliam of the Oakland-based law firm Gwilliam, Ivary, Chiosso, Cavalli & Brewer, has deposed most of the top defendants in the case, and Kochly, 67, is perhaps the most critical because he was ultimately responsible for the actions of his prosecutors.

In Kochly's 289-page deposition, which Gressett's attorneys provided to the *Express*, Contra Costa County's former top prosecutor attempted to answer one of the case's most pivotal questions: Why did he wait nearly five months to arrest Gressett and begin an investigation into Harpham's claims of being raped at gunpoint in Gressett's condo? Kochly said he initially moved slowly when Harpham reported the rape to him on May 14, 2008, six days after the alleged assault, because Harpham was refusing to go to the police or give an administrative statement. Furthermore, she had hired a private attorney as a go-between with Sequeira — her supervisor and Kochly's third in command. The unusual role of Harpham's attorney, who happened to be O'Malley's law partner, made a course of action even more unclear, Kochly said, because he wasn't sure if Harpham, whose probationary contract was about to expire, was just seeking a sexual harassment claim or perhaps looking to use the rape allegations to leverage a permanent job in his office.

Kochly also said he worried about opening old political wounds from previous election campaigns. Gressett was a popular prosecutor who had run three times for the office of DA, challenging the smooth succession of prosecutors who had controlled the office for decades. Furthermore, Gressett was good friends with Peterson, his supervisor and also a former candidate for DA. "I was certainly concerned that however that came out, people were going to say 'Oh, this is all about politics of the past,'" Kochly said in the deposition.

The case was complex, but Kochly essentially described himself as being immobilized by uncertainty despite his 35 years of experience as a prosecutor. Kochly claimed in his deposition that after two months of inaction, he decided to seek advice. He asked Southern California-based attorney Marty Mayer to write him an opinion letter advising him what his responsibilities were. "Well, I got a letter of opinion back from Marty Mayer in mid August, I believe, that said I definitely had a duty to investigate, even if my victim was still not willing to do so voluntarily," Kochly said.

Gwilliam said Kochly's testimony about the delay is troubling and lacks credibility, because Kochly because he was such an experienced prosecutor. If Kochly had any doubts about what to do, he could have gotten advice from the county counsel. "He should have ensured the safety of the employees in his office by treating that as an administrative issue and interviewed both Gressett and Harpham immediately," Gwilliam said. "Why the hell would he sit on his ass waiting for some outside attorney who knows nothing about Contra Costa County to tell him what to do?"

Gwilliam contends there was a political motive for the inaction. Kochly, Sequeira, and Baker thought they could use the rape allegations to fire Gressett, whom they disliked, and hurt Peterson's chances in the DA's race at the same time. In the deposition, Kochly flatly denied this accusation. "That never crossed my mind," he said.

But the deposition reveals that Kochly could have difficulty convincing a jury that he tells the truth. For example, he had difficulty explaining his role in a mysterious $450,000 payment to Harpham. In April 2009, Harpham filed a Department of Fair Employment and Housing Act claim against the county. In her sparse, two-page complaint, Harpham claimed Kochly had created a hostile work environment because she was made to continue working with Gressett and that Kochly retaliated against her for reporting the alleged assault by not hiring her.

The county mediated Harpham's claim and then on October 6, 2009, the board of supervisors approved the $450,000 payment to her during a closed-session meeting. But Kochly, Baker, and Sequeira — who all had knowledge of the settlement — then failed to report the payout to the grand jury investigating the rape allegations. The withholding of that important evidence kept the grand jury in the dark about Harpham's possible motives. It also ultimately resulted in the charges against Gressett being dropped.

KOCHLY "HAD TO KNOW HARPHAM'S PAYMENT WAS APPROVED. HE HELPED MEDIATE THE SETTLEMENT, AND HE WAS AT THE MEETING," GWILLIAM SAID. "THERE WAS SIMPLY NO EXCUSE TO KEEP THAT EVIDENCE FROM THE GRAND JURY."

In his deposition, Kochly claimed that he was unaware of the settlement, even though he had testified previously that he had attended both the mediation and the supervisors meeting during which the payment was approved. "I testified that I was present at a closed session of the board of supervisors," Kochly said, "but I don't believe I ever testified that I was present when they voted to approve it." Gwilliam said that Kochly's testimony creates serious credibility problems for the county. "He had to know Harpham's payment was approved. He helped mediate the settlement, and he was at the meeting. There was simply no excuse to keep that evidence from the grand jury," Gwilliam said.

Peterson won the election and Kochly quietly and somewhat ignominiously retired in 2010. He is expected to give a follow-up deposition in the coming months. ●

Editor@EastBayExpress.com

For years, Trevor Latham, president of the East Bay Rats Motorcycle Club, tried to convince me to go hunting with him, and I never said yes — until now. Kathleen Richards

Hunting With a Rat

What happens when the leader of one of Oakland's most notorious motorcycle clubs tries to convince a squeamish reporter to shoot a wild boar

By Kathleen Richards

We had been searching for wild boar all evening, climbing over rural Monterey County's dusty oak-studded hills in an old jeep with no roof, no seatbelts, and a driver who had just drank a small cooler's worth of beer. I was sitting in back, instructed by our guide to hold onto the metal bar in front of me, just in case the vehicle's jerky clutch caused me to fly forward and knock out all my teeth. As far as first hunting experiences go, this one was feeling kinda dicey.

Sitting up front next to our driver/guide was Trevor Latham, the 43-year-old president of the East Bay Rats Motorcycle Club, with a Remington 700 bolt-action rifle. For years, Latham had tried to convince me to go hunting with him, and I had never said yes — until now.

Why I finally agreed to do so is not entirely clear. To say I'm not the hunting type would be putting it mildly. Although I eat meat, I find the thought of killing — let alone harming — an animal abhorrent. I'm the kind of person who can't even kill a spider, and I hate spiders. I realize this is a hypocritical stance on my part, and also one that's not at all uncommon in American society, which is the main reason why Latham thinks I'm exactly the type of person who should go hunting. He thinks I need to come face to face with my devotion to eat meat. I need to be able to kill something, gut it, and eat it. And I don't entirely disagree with him.

Whether I was actually going to do it or not, however, was still to be determined. For starters, we — me, Latham, our guide, plus (in another vehicle) another guide and JJ Jenkins, who owns Merchants Saloon in Oakland — had seen everything but wild boar: cow, deer, jackrabbits, quail, squirrels, and horses. It turns out that pigs — which are an invasive species in California and a scourge for many farmers — aren't that easy to find. They travel at dusk and in the early morning, and spend the hot days bedded down. Even though they're black and travel in a straight line (you can spot them by the trail of dust they kick up), they're surprisingly hard to see in a landscape dotted with dark bushes and tree stumps.

And that was just fine with me. While I had agreed to go on this hunting trip, and had obtained a hunting license and a pig tag (the legal document required to shoot a pig in California), I still felt ambivalent about the whole situation. I had decided that even if I did spot a wild boar, I wouldn't say anything to Latham or our guide. I wouldn't be responsible for a death — at least not tonight.

But after hours of scouring the landscape — a surprisingly tiring task — in decreasing daylight and dipping temperatures, I found myself eager to see something. As we traversed a hilltop, I suddenly saw something move out of the corner of my eye. Just as soon as I uttered the words "There's something," I knew I'd regret it.

"Where?" our guide asked, excitedly.

I pointed to the hillside to our left, to a patch of clearing between oak trees. The animal's fur matched the color of the dry grass. It definitely wasn't a wild boar, but its trotting gait indicated it wasn't a deer either. It turned out to be a coyote.

Our guide quickly stopped the vehicle and pulled a rifle out of the case that was strapped to the dashboard. Suddenly, my heart was pounding.

"You're gonna shoot it?" I said, with more than a twinge of PLEASE NO DON'T in my voice.

But it was too late. I covered my ears.

BLAM!

The animal fell over, kicking up a small patch of dust in the distance.

Instantly, pangs of guilt washed over me. Our guide, however, felt no such remorse. "They eat fawn. That's why I don't like them," he said, continuing to drive on as if nothing horrific had just happened. "They'll rip babies straight from the mother's asshole. They're mean little animals, meanest animal there is — well, except for me," he said, only somewhat jokingly.

His words didn't make me feel any better. As we continued driving through the hills, beer bottles clinking around on the jeep's floor, I suddenly remembered something.

"It's Friday the 13th."

"I thought about that — that's why I'm in first gear," our driver responded in his thick Southern accent. He paused, then added, laughing, "It was Friday the 13th for that coyote." As the evening wore on, we continued searching for our prey, crossing fields and endless cattle gates, stopping occasionally to examine tracks or just scrutinize the landscape. After the coyote incident, I wasn't sure which animals we were trying to kill and which we weren't, but it was clear there were distinctions. When we passed by a decomposing cow in a field, our guide remarked, "poor little fucker." And when he spotted a bobcat in his binoculars, and I asked him whether he was going to shoot that, too, he replied, "No. I like bobcats," much to my relief.

Wild boar was our main target, and so far we weren't having any luck. Both Latham and our guide feared that the full moon wasn't boding well for the hunt. "These pigs aren't moving till the break of daylight," said our guide, frustrated. As darkness descended, we decided to call it a day. But just as we pulled up to the nearby house where our cars were parked, a small dark animal came into view of the jeep's headlights.

"Is that a raccoon?" our guide asked.

"It's a skunk," Latham replied.

Suddenly, our driver gunned the car, chasing the animal up a dirt road and into tall grass. He stopped, and with headlights shining, pulled out his rifle. *BLAM! Was it dead? BLAM!* It fell over, and a distinctly skunky smell began to permeate the night air. "It sprayed the dogs twice," our driver said, attempting to once again justify his deadly deed.

By then, I had had enough killing for the evening. If one thing was becoming clear, it was that out here, decisions about life and death get made in an instant. I wasn't sure yet whether what we were doing was right or wrong, but I knew we'd be making a similar decision before the weekend was over.

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Just how comfortable you are with guns, hunting, and eating animals largely depends on how you were raised. And for many urban dwellers like myself, even those who eat meat, there's a gaping disconnect between the acts of killing an animal and putting food on the table. We buy our meat in packages, from cases, where almost all signs of their previous state as living, breathing creatures with hair, organs, and entrails are obscured. So while we may have no problem eating bacon, we probably couldn't actually kill a pig.

Latham wasn't introduced to guns or hunting until relatively late in life. A self-described "city boy," he grew up splitting his time between two parents and two coasts: East (Long Island, where his dad lived) and West (Berkeley, where his mom resided). He described his mother as an animal lover who enjoys the outdoors and is fiercely "anti-hunting," while his father, an aeronautical engineer encouraged him to pursue computers. But Latham wasn't the type to sit in an office all day. He said he was drawn to trouble and "ran around the woods a lot as a kid." His father had actually grown up hunting but had given it up when he got married. While Latham had never seen his dad hold a gun, something about the idea appealed to him. "He always told stories, so obviously I was drawn to that," he said.

Wherever the edge of safety was, Latham wasn't far away. For him, the concepts of danger and fun are very closely linked; in fact, they could be the same thing. Perhaps it wasn't surprising then that Latham was attracted to motorcycles (another one of his father's hobbies that he had given up to raise a family). After graduating from high school and permanently moving to the Bay Area, Latham decided to buy a bike, even though he had never ridden one before. "Suddenly going from one place to another was a rollercoaster," he said. "It was the most fun."

THE RATS ARE PERHAPS BEST KNOWN FOR HOSTING FIGHT PARTIES AT THEIR SAN PABLO AVENUE CLUBHOUSE, IN WHICH REGULAR PEOPLE GET INTO A BOXING RING AND BEAT THE CRAP OUT OF EACH OTHER.

Soon, he met other bikers, people like him who enjoyed "just being wild and not knowing what to do with themselves and wanting to be independent." They began putting on rides and throwing crazy parties and generally acting like a motorcycle club, so Latham decided to create his own. Founded in 1994, the East Bay Rats Motorcycle Club has become synonymous with a kind of urban outlaw. ("Rats" is a reference to rat bikes — ugly bikes that are painted matte black and constructed for maximum endurance.) The Rats are perhaps best known for hosting fight parties at their San Pablo Avenue clubhouse, in which regular people get into a boxing ring and beat the crap out of each other. They've been featured in numerous articles and reality TV episodes, and are also the subject of a forthcoming book.

For Latham, there's a life-affirming aspect to the danger of riding motorcycles. "You get a perspective on life by riding it," he said. "You almost get into an accident, which happens once a week. You realize what's important and what isn't." (In 2005 Latham did get in a serious accident, when he was hit by a drunk driver. He broke his hand and both legs and hit his head so hard that he had trouble thinking for a while.)

Naturally, guns fit right into that hazard-courting lifestyle. Not long after founding the East Bay Rats, Latham was invited to go shooting with a friend. "I absolutely loved it," he recalled. Like riding motorcycles, shooting guns keyed into something primal for him. "It's one of those few times when you're not thinking about what you're doing — you're just doing."

Almost immediately after shooting his first gun, Latham knew he wanted to hunt. But as with riding motorcycles, Latham said, hunting was difficult to get into if you didn't already know someone doing it. Then one day his

Almost immediately after shooting his first gun, Latham knew he wanted to hunt.
Kathleen Richards

Kathleen Richards

On my first night of hunting with Latham and JJ Jenkins, owner of Merchant's Saloon in Oakland, we saw everything but wild boar.

found "freaked out" and shot a deer that was sitting in his Oakland hills backyard.

"He calls me in a panic," Latham recalled. "I don't know what to do either, but I know a guy, and he showed up like Mr. Wolf in *Reservoir Dogs* ... [He] shows us step-by-step [how to gut it] ... And we ate that thing. We ate that whole deer."

Shortly thereafter, Latham made his first kill — a jackrabbit — on his property up in Susanville. "The first time you put your hands in the guts ... it's really gross," he said. "You have that squeamish hesitation, but once you dive in, the more you do it the more you get used to it." He's even eaten roadkill. He recalled an incident in which his buddy hit a deer and then brought it to the clubhouse. And then the deer woke up. "I slit its throat. Then we cut it up and ate it," Latham said, laughing.

About that laughing. Latham often laughs when talking about hunting and eating animals. Although he only kills animals for food, he also seems to enjoy a certain satisfaction from the actual act of killing. And that's especially true with pigs.

"I get so excited about killing them that it's possibly unhealthy," he said. "Whereas [hunting] a deer, I'm excited about it, but I'm not like stay-up-all-night-run-through-the-woods-naked excited."

Why pigs?

"They're dangerous, they can hurt you, and, uh, they're really tasty," Latham explained. "Pigs are this environmental disaster — they tear up everything, they're an invasive species."

It took Latham a while to actually kill one, however. After scouring public lands (where boar are over-hunted), he finally found a guide who takes people out on private land in King City, in Monterey County, where wild boar are abundant. The guide guarantees hunters one fair shot — that is, he'll find the pig for you, but it's up to you whether or not you're able to shoot it. For the opportunity, he charges $500, whether or not you make a kill.

On that first hunting trip back in 2004, Latham ending up shooting a wild boar that was sleeping four hundred yards away. "They freaked out that I made that shot and went crazy," he said. "We were jumping around, yelling."

Since then, Latham has gone boar hunting every time his freezer is empty. He estimated that he's killed about ten pigs, and his ultimate goal (which he said he's close to achieving) is to only eat meat he has hunted.

Meanwhile, he has been teaching others how to do the same. About four years ago, he began taking guests out to his Livermore property and showing them how to kill and gut rabbits. Taking a cue from the 1984 movie *Red Dawn*, he makes them eat the heart of their first kill. (After a *Vice* episode aired in 2012 showing this process, Latham's caged rabbits went missing — the culprits, he suspects, were animal activists.)

> **"IT'S WEIRD THAT PEOPLE CAN'T ACCEPT WHAT THEY'RE DOING AND TAKE ANY RESPONSIBILITY," LATHAN SAID OF EATING MEAT. "PEOPLE WANT TO BE AS FAR AWAY FROM THAT RESPONSIBILITY AS POSSIBLE."**

Latham pointed to the lack of "machismo" among the generation after his as one of his motives for making meat-eaters learn how to shoot and hunt. But there's also a part of him that wants people to get closer to the dangerous side of life. "It's pretty real and pretty dramatic," he said about hunting. "It shouldn't be taken lightly."

"It's weird that people can't accept what they're doing and take any responsibility," he continued. "People want to be as far away from that responsibility as possible."

Seeing as I had never shot a gun before in my life, Latham decided I should practice first before actually thinking about killing something, which seemed like a good idea. He invited me to the

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When shooting, you can't hesitate or feel apprehensive. You have to fully commit to what you're doing.

East Bay Rats' clubhouse, where he and other members shoot pellet guns in the backyard every Monday evening.

I arrived around 6 p.m. to find a bunch of guys sitting around a table playing a boisterous game of cards while a few more were out back drinking beer, smoking cigarettes, and setting up paper targets.

Before I got to actually handle a gun, Latham told me three safety rules: "Keep your finger off the trigger; don't shoot at anything you're not willing to destroy; and make sure you have a proper backstop so that the bullet doesn't go on and kill anything." That last point is important: It turns out that rifles have a projectile range of several miles, which is why you should never shoot at something that's on a ridgetop.

EVERY TIME YOU BREATHE, YOUR BODY MOVES, WHICH YOU ESPECIALLY NOTICE WHEN YOU'RE AIMING AT SOMETHING THROUGH A TINY SCOPE AND EVEN THE SLIGHTEST MOVEMENT CAN MEAN MISSING YOUR MARK.

We were only shooting pellet guns, but even so, it wasn't something I was taking lightly. First of all, it's still a gun. Second of all, pellets can do damage.

Another thing about guns: They're not light. Holding one while trying to precisely aim at something while thinking about the fact that you could take an eye out turns out to be an incredibly taxing situation. To make it easier, Latham had me sit in a chair and rest my elbows on a stool. One of the Rats loaded the gun and handed it to me.

Actually firing the gun was another matter. We've all seen movies of people shooting guns, so most of us know roughly how to hold one, but there are particulars about the stance. You have to press the butt of the gun firmly into your shoulder (the meaty part, not the bony part), and put your cheek against the stock. That requires convincing your brain that pressing your face up against something that's meant to kill things is actually the safe thing to do.

The gun was too big for my body, so holding it felt awkward and clumsy. But aiming it (especially with a scope) was easy. Once I had the target in my sight, I turned off the safety (a little button you press on the trigger guard) that allowed me to pull the trigger. Here's another thing about rifles: You actually don't "pull" the trigger, you "squeeze" it — and, yes, there's a difference. Pulling it may cause you to move too much and miss your target.

Breathing is another component. Every time you breathe your body moves, which you especially notice when you're aiming at something through a tiny scope and even the slightest movement can mean missing your mark. People have different methods when it comes to breathing and timing a shot, but Latham suggested fully inhaling and exhaling, and then inhaling halfway.

If you take too long to pull the trigger, your arms can get tired and wobbly. So you need to act fast — but you also need to take your time. Did I mention this was stressful?

Finally, you also can't hesitate or feel apprehensive. You have to fully commit to what you're doing. You have to sharpen your focus and really concentrate. And you have to think about what'll happen once you pull the trigger. You can't loosen your grip or lose sight of your target or let the gun jerk when it fires. You have to keep it steady — your mind, your body, and the gun.

When I had the target firmly in my sight and had partially inhaled, I squeezed the trigger. The force, even for a pellet gun, was a bit jarring. Remarkably, I hit close to the bull's eye. After so much effort and concentration for such a seemingly simple task, I felt exhausted, yet also exhilarated. The next shot I loaded myself.

After practicing with the pellet gun at the clubhouse, I had to take the next step toward hunting: getting a hunting license. And that required taking a hunter education class, as mandated by the State of California. The Department of Fish and Wildlife certifies hunter education instructors to teach these classes, which are offered all over the state and are listed on the department's website.

Much to my surprise, most of the upcoming Bay Area classes were full. I finally found an open spot for a class held on a horse ranch in Novato, about 35 miles north of Oakland. It required two three-hour sessions, plus one six-hour class.

The first thing that struck me when I walked into the converted barn/classroom was the kids. There were four of them, all boys — two who looked to be about eleven or twelve, and another two who were about seven. I was expecting to learn about guns and safety, but I wasn't expecting to do so with a bunch of children.

There were also two twentysomething dudes, an older guy, and one of the young boys' thirtysomething father. When the teacher asked how many people in the room had handled guns before, every arm shot up. I was definitely feeling like the odd woman out.

The class was taught by Daniel and Janet Gookin, a married couple. After we signed a legal document stating that we weren't restricted from owning or possessing firearms, ammunition, and/or dangerous weapons, the Gookins began with an overview of what we'd be learning in class, which was mostly about how to safely handle guns. But almost immediately, the discussion turned political.

Janet said we'd be learning "why hunting is important, why we have our Second Amendment, why we need to protect that. So what we're here for is, we want to involve you in the process in keeping some of our liberties and our freedoms."

It was unclear whether this discussion was part of the normal routine or whether it was being said for my benefit — I had informed Daniel I was a reporter when I initially signed up for the class — but if they were trying to present hunters in a positive light to a skeptical audience, they weren't exactly successful.

Janet continued: "There are many organizations out there that are really that we need to listen to or be able to know about so that when someone comes on and goes, oh, the NRA, and they'll say a bunch of bad stuff, well you know what, there are some good things that they're doing too."

Another part of hunter education was making sure everyone in the room understood how hunting is good for the environment. Daniel referred to hunters as "environmentalists" who protect habitats, keep animal populations under control, and "are harvesting a continually renewable resource."

My hunting ed class with instructor Daniel Gookin quickly got political. Kathleen Richards

Here's the thing: There are two parts to hunting. One is the killing of animals for food, and the second is the tool used to do it. Seeing as that tool is most often a gun, the class at times felt like a bunch of pro-gun propaganda. Gun safety is also a tricky topic, and one that the instructors danced around several times, because essentially you're talking about how to safely use something that's meant to kill. The topic of safety was often framed in the context of avoiding the kind of accidents that give hunters a bad rap. (Daniel referred to them as "incidents," not "accidents," because, he said, they're preventable.) The instructors also used euphemisms such as "harvest" (meaning to "kill") and "expire" (for "die"). Considering all the gun deaths in this country, it was difficult to separate my dislike for guns from my feelings about hunting.

BATCHELER BELIEVES THAT IF MORE PEOPLE HUNTED, THEY WOULD HAVE GREATER RESPECT FOR LIVING THINGS. "WE'RE INTERDEPENDENTLY WOVEN TOGETHER," HE SAID. "IT'S NOT JUST SURVIVAL OF THE FITTEST."

The Department of Fish and Wildlife seems well aware of this fact. In the 106-page booklet the agency distributes to every hunter ed student, there are tips on how to avoid the "disdain of non-hunters." For example, it recommends avoiding tying animals to the hood or roof of a car, refraining from consuming alcohol while hunting and from "taking graphic photographs of the kill and from vividly describing the kill while within earshot of non-hunters," and maintaining "a presentable appearance while on the street — no bloody or dirty clothing."

These all seemed reasonable enough. A few weeks later, however, I'd witness several of these guidelines being ignored.

I didn't grow up killing things — at least, not consciously. Maybe I killed ants and mosquitos and (inadvertently) a goldfish or two, but I never intentionally took the life of an animal, nor have I ever had the desire to do so. While reporting this story, I repeatedly came up against this feeling as a barrier to my ability to hunt. Even though I eat meat, there was a still a threshold I had to cross in order to kill a living thing.

Whenever I brought up this dilemma to hunters, I got the same response: "Anyone who eats anything ... they have participated in the act of killing," said Mark Batcheler, a hunter and former naturalist who's now an organic farmer in Santa Cruz. "I kill a lot of animals by farming." Batcheler — who's also a member of the Bay Area Tracking Club, a group of individuals who practice tracking animals for fun every month — said whether it's aphids, gophers, or the plants themselves, he has to kill something to keep something else alive. "We all take life. What kind of life we take is really up to us."

Batcheler grew up hunting with guns in the Midwest, but said he now only hunts with a bow. For him, hunting means getting to know the natural landscape by using all his senses — looking at tracks, gauging the wind, smelling scat on the ground, and examining trails. Hunting with a bow enhances his relationship to the natural world. "It means I have to get closer to my prey," he said. "There's a lot more intimate connection. There's a lot more tracking that has to occur."

In hunting, there's a concept called "buck fever" — essentially, it refers to the nervousness that happens right before a hunter kills something. For Batcheler, "buck fever" is a good thing. "If a hunter stops feeling that, they don't feel the sacredness of life," he said. "I would feel not good about hunting if I took the life of an animal and didn't feel something. That would be akin to a psychosis."

This sentiment is one that can be hard to grasp for someone who's against hunting. Batcheler believes that if more people hunted, they would have a greater respect for living things. Is it possible that hunters actually care deeply about the life they're taking, perhaps even more deeply than someone — I'm talking about meat-eaters here — who doesn't hunt?

"We're interdependently woven together," said Batcheler. "It's not just survival of the fittest. We need life to sustain life."

After our unsuccessful hunt on Friday, we drove back to the house where our guides were putting us up for the night. It was a single-story ranch-style house with four bedrooms and four large animal heads (two wild boar, one buck, and a cow) mounted on the living room wall. Latham had brought dinner, and, perhaps unsurprisingly, it

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Photo: Terraye Cummings, OMCA

consisted solely of meat — sausage and steak. We sat in the backyard around the fire pit eating chunks of meat and drinking whiskey (except for Latham, who's sober).

Even though Latham and Jenkins look like roughnecks and espouse libertarian values about gun rights (although they both advocate for restricting handguns and imposing better background checks), they also exhibited a surprisingly softer side. While driving to King City, Latham and I talked at length about relationships. He told me getting married and having children had been his main priority in life (he has been sober since he found out his wife was pregnant, about a year and half ago), and when I mentioned that path likely wasn't in my cards for me, he said I needed to devote at least fifteen hours per week to the pursuit. Latham and Jenkins also talked about how excited they were that their significant others are both pregnant and that their kids will be close in age.

By then it was getting late, and we had to wake up at 4 a.m. for the next leg of our hunt. A few hours later, we arose to find our new guide, with his two sons and another boy, outside waiting for us. Under the light of the still-full moon, we loaded up the vehicles with guns and supplies, then drove back to the private property where we'd continue our search. Once there, Latham and I climbed into the back of our new guide's pickup truck. Compared to the night before, this experience felt luxurious — although there were still no seatbelts on the bench that was built into the bed of the truck, there was also no funky clutch, no booze, and no metal bar precariously positioned in front of my face.

With the night's chill still clinging to the darkened valley floor, we barreled down a road between two pieces of property — a vineyard to our left and a barley field to our right. All of a sudden the vehicle stopped. The next few moments were a blur, but here's what I remember: our guide pointing to the open field to our right, a big dark object about a hundred yards away; Latham jumping out of the truck, our guide freaking out, loudly whispering to him, "What are you doing?!? Stay in the truck!"; and then Latham's high powered rifle blasting into the cold morning air, sounding like a bomb going off.

Our guide and three boys dragged the bear that Latham shot through a field of barley

Adrian Richards

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The hunting trip forced me to seriously consider my decision to eat meat.

Kathleen Richards

In the darkness, I couldn't really tell what had happened. But we quickly sped off down the road. Did he hit it? Did it die? Were we chasing it? As we kept driving on, I realized that it was all over. Latham had killed a wild boar, and we were simply moving on to find more. I felt strangely detached from the whole incident.

We didn't return to retrieve the wild beast until more than an hour later, after the sun had risen. Our guide sent the three boys with some rope to haul it back, but it was quickly apparent that the animal was too heavy for their little bodies. So with our guide's help, the four of them dragged it through the blond fields of barley. As they got closer, Latham's excitement increased. It was the largest boar — it looked to be about three hundred pounds, with three-inch tusks — he had ever killed, and he had done so while it was running, hitting it right in the lungs (if he had shot it in the gut, the animal could have kept running for miles). They hauled it into the truck, right behind where we were sitting. There was surprisingly little blood, and it seemed unreal — maybe because its hair was bristly, or because I hadn't really seen it alive, and hadn't heard it squeal or make any sounds. After some photos were snapped, we continued on our way.

A few hours later, while we were parked on a hill, waiting silently to find more boar (hunting involves a lot of silent waiting), our guide decided it would be a good time to gut the pig. If you've never watched an animal be gutted before — and I hadn't — there are a few things you need to be prepared for. As gross as the sight of an animal being cut open is, the most overpowering element is the smell. As soon as he opened up the animal's cavity, an incredibly moldy, pungent scent wafted over the truck. That, combined with the sound of removing entrails — imagine sticking your hands in a bowl of very wet macaroni and cheese — made my stomach turn. I hopped out of the truck and walked away, thankful that I had only eaten an energy bar that morning.

Again, I was reminded about how you're comfortable with what you grew up with. The three boys were all engrossed in the process, poking and prodding the entrails with curiosity. The youngest one, who was nine, had no trouble digging into the pig's empty cavity to retrieve its heart so I could take a photo of it.

After a few more hours of hunting — the guides, with the help of their dogs, shot another three pigs — we headed back to the hunting lodge, where there was a "skinning shed" and walk-in refrigerator. The guides had already skinned Latham's pig by the time I got there, and its remains (head still attached and intact, so Latham could later mount it) lay on the cement floor like a deflated shell of its former self. They hung the meat on hooks and cut it into chunks, which Latham put inside huge plastic coolers. Then they skinned the other pigs, and threw their bloody remnants into a large plastic bucket. My stomach decided it had seen enough guts for the day.

As we headed out of town back to Oakland, however, we needed to eat a proper meal, so we stopped at a taqueria. There was no way I could fathom eating meat at that point. Even with our jeeps and our radios and the dogs and the high-powered weapons, hunting was an exhausting and nauseating experience. And I had been foolish to think I could've shot anything with my limited gun skills. (It turns out that animals are always running, in order to get away from the humans who are trying to kill them — go figure.)

And yet, I also could see why certain aspects of hunting are appealing, particularly the part about spending hours and hours outdoors. Besides witnessing the killing part, I enjoyed being dirty, tired, and sunburned at the end of the trip. So I sort of understood why Latham said he felt his "most comfortable" when he was hunting.

Even though I had many moral dilemmas throughout the reporting of this story, what was important was that I had the moral dilemmas at all. I had to seriously consider my decision to eat meat and my feelings about guns on a very immediate level. And even though I didn't pull the trigger, I had watched the killing and gutting of the wild boar, and a few days later, had eaten the meat. It turns out that hunting was much more difficult, on so many levels, than I had expected. And that was a good thing. ●

Editor@EastBayExpress.com

EVENTS & ATTRACTIONS

Putting the Science Back Into Science Fiction

Evolution Expo seeks to make the connection between science and science fiction

Julie Caitlin Brown grew up on science fiction. "I loved [Isaac] Asimov and [Ray] Bradbury and the idea of technology and the future," she said. "I had a very strong interior fantasy life." As she grew older she also began to develop an interest in metaphysics and physics, wanting to understand the universe in a more intellectual way.

The result of her intertwining passions is Evolution Expo, an educational event she co-created with her son to demonstrate how much of science fiction is based on hard science. "The ideas in the minds of the science fiction writer have never been more closely aligned with the ideas of the scientists," said Brown, who is a longtime event consultant and a veteran of the entertainment industry. "Many of them grew up watching science fiction, so there's a symbiotic relationship between the science fiction we see and the amazing science unlocking the mysteries of the universe."

Julie Caitlin Brown Craig Damon

Brown said she believes the purpose of science fiction is to spark people's curiosity about the world. "The best of science fiction gives us hope," she said. "It inspires a young person to want to explore their universe and gives us the idea that there is more to be revealed. 'What if' is what great science fiction does, and great science is what answers that question."

The expo, which will take place at the Oakland Marriott City Center (1001 Broadway) this weekend, is intended for science fiction fans, professional scientists, and the general public. So in addition to autograph signings and photo opportunities with sci-fi actors such as *Star Trek's* Tim Russ and *Battlestar Galactica's* Ty Olsson, the expo will feature science lectures geared toward professionals, and an educational program called Evo-Kids during which astronauts will discuss the challenges of man and space operations.

The science lectures will include talks by Dr. Pascal Lee, co-founder and chairman of the Mars Institute, who will discuss the mission to Mars, and UC Berkeley adjunct associate professor Jennifer Fletcher, who will speak about genetics in science and science fiction. On Sunday, *The Big Bang Theory* actress Mayim Bialik, who has a Ph.D in neuroscience, will give a presentation on what it's like to be both an actress and a scientist. Bialik said she's excited for the event because of its infusion of actual science with science fiction. "Once you have a basic scientific understanding, it broadens your world," she said.

In addition to panels and presentations, there will also be space-age karaoke, a performance by Jefferson Starship and progressive rock band Spock's Beard, a charity ball, and private meet-and-greets with celebrities.

Brown hopes that attendees come away from the event with a better understanding of math and science. "Science and math and technology are not something outside of yourself," she said. "Therefore, understanding them and demystifying them is an incredibly important part of all of us having a better quality of life."

Friday through Sunday, June 27-29. General weekend pass: $25-$150; elite weekend pass: $150-$1000. EvolutionExpo.net

— Zaineb Mohammed

ATTRACTIONS

The Amelia Project: Departure Meet and greet with Amelia Rose [illegible], who is departing on a flight to retrace her namesake's infamous 1937 flight around the world. Thu., June 26, [illegible] a.m. Oakland [illegible], 8252 Earhart Rd., Oakland, 510-638-7100. OaklandAviationMuseum.org.

Baseball Weekend With baseball-themed [illegible]. Sat., June 28, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sun., June 29, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. $12-$15. Playland-Not-at-the-Beach, 10979 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito, Playland-Not-at-theBeach.org.

Experience [illegible] [illegible]. Sat., June 28, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. free. [illegible], Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Berkeley, 510-981-5250, CI.Berkeley.ca.us.

Friday Nights at OMCA Night markets at the museum [illegible] and food [illegible]. Fridays, 5-9 p.m. $7.50. Oakland Museum of California, 1000 Oak St., Oakland, 510-318-8400, MuseumCA.org.

FAIRS, FESTIVALS, & FIESTAS

Alameda County Fair The annual fair [illegible], carnivals, concerts, [illegible], agriculture education, and [illegible] rides for kids, plus plenty of fried food, turkey legs, and cows on the mile. Tuesdays-Sundays, 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Continues through July 6. $9-$10, free for children under 6. Alameda County Fairgrounds, 4501 Pleasanton Ave., Pleasanton, 925-426-7600, AlamedaCountyFair.com.

Cultural Night [illegible] the 86th anniversary [illegible] Screening of *[illegible]* [illegible] and performances by [illegible]. Sat., June 28, 6 p.m. $10.95-$34.00. [illegible] 14800 East 14th St., San Leandro, 510-614-1224.

[illegible] [illegible]. Sun., June 29, 3-7 p.m. [illegible] Theater, 436 14th St., Oakland.

Juneteenth Family Day [illegible] featuring the Wells Fargo Kasher stage [illegible], African American Heroes [illegible], the Village [illegible], and many more. [illegible] Blvd. and Marina Way South in Richmond. Sat., June 28, [illegible] a.m.-6 p.m.

Juneteenth Festival [illegible] entertainment, health screenings, [illegible] food, kids expo, youth poetry slam, [illegible] contest, [illegible] vendors, and more. Sat., June 28, 11:30 a.m.-6 p.m. Nicholl Park, 3230 MacDonald Ave., Richmond. 510-221-3004. [illegible].

King [illegible] [illegible], water activities, and a BBQ. Sat., June 28, 1:30-3:30 p.m. $6-$8. King Pool, 1700 Hopkins St., Berkeley, 510-981-5136, CI.Berkeley.ca.us. [illegible] 5672.

The [illegible] [illegible] the college's 50th anniversary with [illegible], community and corporate booths, food vendors, [illegible] for kids and all, and more. Sat., June 28, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. free. [illegible] College, [illegible] 900 Fallon St., Oakland.

HEALTH, WELLNESS, & SEXUALITY

8 Top [illegible] & Massage [illegible] and Reflexology Talk by transformational coach [illegible]. Sun., June 29, 1-2:30 p.m. free. Angel Light Books, 3347 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Berkeley, 510-985-1000, AngelLightBooks.com.

Academy of Chinese Culture & Health Sciences Open House Open house for the [illegible] which offers acupuncture, herbs, and Tui Na medical massage. Fri., June 27, 5 p.m. Academy of Chinese Culture & Health Sciences, 1600 Broadway, Oakland, 510-763-7787, ACCHS.edu.

Art of [illegible] Presence: Less Than [illegible] [illegible], express your feminine through [illegible] movement, [illegible], art, and [illegible] practices. Sun., June 29, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. $45. Rhythmic Cultural Works, 2513 Blanding Ave., Alameda, 510-865-9080, Rhythmic.org.

[illegible] Project Support Group A mutual support group [illegible] the context of mental health, [illegible], self-care, awareness, mutual aid, [illegible], and self-expression. First Wednesday of every month. free. [illegible] Collective, 2271 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-238-8171, [illegible].com.

Oakland [illegible] Embodying Equality & [illegible] [illegible] mindfulness, [illegible], and nonviolent [illegible], where participants will learn to integrate meditation practices with communication. Through Aug. 13. 6:30-8 p.m. $395-$595. Center for Transformative Change, 2584 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Berkeley, 510-548-3733, TransformativeChange.org.

Yoga for Families Taught by Alexis [illegible], [illegible] child and family yoga teacher. Fri., June 27, 10:15-11 a.m.; Fri., July 11, 10:15-11 a.m. Hayward Public Library, 835 C St., Hayward, 510-293-8685, Library.Hayward-CA.gov.

KIDS

The [illegible] Lady [illegible] and musically [illegible] show. Tue., July 1, 6 p.m. Oakland Public Library: [illegible] Branch, 5001 E. 12th St., Oakland, 510-535-5620, OaklandLibrary.org.

[illegible] Lady [illegible] enhanced bubble show. Wed., July 2, 3 p.m. Oakland Public Library: [illegible] Branch, [illegible] Ave., Oakland, 510-615-5727, OaklandLibrary.org.

East Bay Buddhist [illegible] [illegible]. Thu., June 26, 1 p.m. Oakland Public Library [illegible] Branch, 4805 Foothill Blvd., Oakland, 510-535-5813, OaklandLibrary.org.

Gardening, Games and More Gardening, nature crafts, and other [illegible] activities. Fri., June 27, 1:30-2:30 p.m.; Fri., July 11, 1:30-2:30 p.m.; Fri., July 18, 1:30-2:30 p.m.; Fri., July 25, 1:30-2:30 p.m. Oakland Public Library: Main Branch, 125 14th St., Oakland, 510-238-3134, OaklandLibrary.org.

Jewelry Making for [illegible] [illegible] by Yu Lan Dana. Wed., July 2, 2:45-3:45 p.m. Albany Library, 1247 Marin Ave., Albany, 510-526-3720, AClibrary.org.

Kids on Stage Summer [illegible] [illegible] camp where kids learn to sing, act, and [illegible] June 30-July 11, 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.; July 14-25, 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.; July 28-Aug. 8, 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. $700 per session. Stage Door Conservatory Theater, 2213 [illegible] Ave., Berkeley, 510-233-2100, StageDoorConservatory.org.

[illegible] Maker Car Lab [illegible] and design [illegible] to meet various challenges including speed, weight, original [illegible], and more. Thu., June 26, 1 & 3 p.m.; Fri., June 27, 1 & 3 p.m.; Sat., June 28, 1 & 3 p.m. Chabot Space & Science Center, 10000 Skyline Blvd., Oakland, 510-336-7373, ChabotSpace.org.

Little Explorers Petting Zoo Kids can meet and touch [illegible] of animals. Sat., June 28, 11 a.m. Oakland Public Library: Rockridge Branch, 5366 College Ave., Oakland, 510-597-5017, OaklandLibrary.org.

Little Explorers Petting Zoo Kids can meet and touch [illegible] of animals. Wed., July 2, 1 p.m. Oakland Public Library: Oakland [illegible], 1427 88th Ave., Oakland, 510-615-5727, OaklandLibrary.org.

Live Science: [illegible] A [illegible] minute interactive [illegible] show with [illegible] led by a Chabot staff member. The [illegible] (June-August) [illegible] with general admission [illegible] activities. Fridays, 12:30 & 2 p.m. Continues through June 27. [illegible] Chabot Space & Science Center, 10000 Skyline Blvd., Oakland, 510-336-7373, ChabotSpace.org.

Magic Camp [illegible] magic camp [illegible] for kids aged 5-7 years old taught by [illegible]. Thu., June 26, 2-4 p.m.; Tue., July 15, 2-4 p.m.; Wed., July 16, 2-4 p.m. $40. Playland-Not-at-the-Beach, 10979 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito, Playland-Not-at-theBeach.org.

Mini [illegible] Camp [illegible] camps for Oakland ages 5-7. Each week ends with an informal presentation of [illegible]. Mondays-Fridays, 9 a.m.-noon. Continues through July 11. $310 per week. [illegible] Institute, 605 Addison St., Berkeley, 510-883-1118, [illegible].org.

Mini [illegible] Days [illegible] who [illegible] their habitat in the desert through arts, crafts, activities, and more. Mon., June 30, 10 a.m.-noon. $10-$20. Lindsay Wildlife Museum, 1931 First Ave., Walnut Creek, 925-935-1978, WildlifeMuseum.org.

[illegible] Basketball League with multiple [illegible] and individualized training activities, by [illegible] player [illegible]. For boys and girls in [illegible] third, and fourth grades. [illegible] for boys and girls ages 5-7. Saturdays, 10-11:15 a.m. [illegible], 1256 [illegible] Wy., Berkeley, 510-665-9010, [illegible].org.

Play Day [illegible] Featuring face painting, double-dutch, game van, cultural arts and crafts, basketball, Berkeley [illegible], and more. Fri., June 27, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Oakland City Hall, 1 Frank Ogawa Plaza, Oakland.

Stamp It! DIY Stamp-Making Participants will learn how to carve a stamp out of their own design. Thu., June 26, 3:30-5 p.m. Oakland Public Library: Piedmont Branch, 160 41st St., Oakland, 510-597-5011, OaklandLibrary.org.

Stamp It! DIY Stamp-Making Participants will learn how to carve a stamp out of their own design. Fri., June 27, 3:30-5 p.m. Oakland Public Library: West Oakland Branch, 1801 Adeline St., Oakland, 510-238-7352, OaklandLibrary.org.

Summer Camp: [illegible] [illegible] and creek discoveries, activities, creativity, [illegible], journaling, [illegible] gardening, an end [illegible] parade, storytelling, crafts, and more. For ages 6-10. Through June 27, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. $[illegible]. University of California Botanical Garden, 200 Centennial Dr., Berkeley, 510-643-2755, BotanicalGarden.berkeley.edu.

Summer [illegible] of [illegible] Hall of Science [illegible] activities at [illegible], bubbly sidewalk painting, [illegible] arts, and [illegible] on how to make your own [illegible]. Visit LawrenceHallofScience.org for activities, [illegible]. Wednesdays, 12-2 p.m. Continues through Aug. 20. $6-$12; free for members. Lawrence Hall of Science, 1 Centennial Dr., Berkeley, 510-642-5132, LawrenceHallofScience.org.

Summer Magic Camp Magician and [illegible] Mike Della Penna [illegible] kids how to perform magic effects, [illegible] magic, and build DIY tricks. Through June 27, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.; Through July 18, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. $250 per session. Playland-Not-at-the-Beach, 10979 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito, Playland-Not-at-theBeach.org.

Summer Music [illegible] [illegible] Oakland [illegible], dance, art, [illegible], and the [illegible] of [illegible]. June 30-July 11, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. $300. Oakland Public Conservatory of Music, 1616 Franklin St., Oakland, 510-836-6876, OPCMusic.org.

Wind [illegible] Lab Engineer and [illegible] [illegible]. Wed., July 2, 1 & 3 p.m.; Thu., July 3, 1 & 3 p.m.; Sat., July 5, 1 & 3 p.m.; Sun., July 6, 1 & 3 p.m.; Wed., July 30, 1 & 3 p.m.; Thu., July 31, 1 & 3 p.m. $6. Chabot Space & Science Center, 10000 Skyline Blvd., Oakland, 510-336-7373, ChabotSpace.org.

LGBT

San Francisco International LGBT Film Festival The world's oldest and largest showcase of queer cinema from around the globe. Visit Frameline.org for the full [illegible]. Through June 29. $12. [illegible] Theater, [illegible] Castro Street, San Francisco, (415)703-8120.

San Francisco Pride One of San Francisco's biggest, most colorful parades, [illegible] the usual two-day procession of cowboys in leather [illegible], and [illegible] go-go [illegible], the parade also [illegible] parade [illegible] and [illegible] forms of [illegible]. This year's [illegible] "Color Our World with Pride." Sat., June 28; Sun., June 29. free. San Francisco Civic Center, [illegible] St., San Francisco.

RELIGION & SPIRITUALITY

[illegible] [illegible] teachings, with keynote speaker George Takei. Sat., June 28, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. $40. [illegible] Center, 2140 Durant Ave., Berkeley.

[illegible] Lunch [illegible] are prepared by [illegible] of Kosher [illegible] with Rabbi [illegible]. Thursdays, 12-1 p.m.; Mondays, 12-1 p.m. $10 general admission; $7 all [illegible]. Jewish Community Center of the East Bay, Berkeley [illegible], 1414 Walnut St., Berkeley, 510-848-0237, JCCEastBay.org.

Meditation and Peace Through Wisdom [illegible] meditation class series. Mondays, 7-8:30 p.m. Continues through June 30. $12. Lakeshore Avenue Baptist Church, 3534 Lakeshore Ave., Oakland, 510-893-2484.

SALES, SWAPS, PROMOTIONS, & FUNDRAISERS

[illegible] Swap Meet [illegible] swap [illegible] hundreds of record collectors and dealers from throughout [illegible]. Buying, selling, and trading soul, funk, hip hop, jazz, [illegible], punk, [illegible] rock, and more, 12"s and 45's on vinyl. Sun., June 29, 12-6 p.m. La Peña Cultural Center, 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-849-2568, LaPena.org.

[illegible] & [illegible] Pop Up Shop A [illegible] Style Experience [illegible] pop-up shop selling [illegible] fashion [illegible] the Bay Area and beyond. Mondays-Saturdays, 12-6 p.m. Continues through Aug. 30. [illegible] Shop, 1309 Clay St. #100, Oakland, [illegible].com.

[illegible] [illegible] sale by [illegible] of Oakland [illegible] Art Practitioners to put on their first annual [illegible] in Oakland. At 5849 [illegible] St. in Oakland. Sat., June 28, 9

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Who Should You Follow on Twitter?

Who Should You Follow on Twitter?

Who you follow on Twitter can be just as important to your business as who follows you. While your followers create an audience for your marketing message, the people you follow can help you build vital relationships, provide sources for future tweets and enhance your market research efforts. There are three groups that you should particularly consider following: industry experts, vendors and your customers.

Industry experts are in the Twitter game for the same reason you are: publicity. Their tweets often promote their experience and proven knowledge. Following them can help you keep on top of trends and provide you with material for retweets. If they follow you back, you've added a valuable member to your audience and can potentially build a professional relationship.

Vendors can also help you keep on top of trends in your industry and give your followers an idea of the services you offer. Following your current vendors and tagging them when relevant is a great way to make a connection. Follow prospective vendors to turn them into current vendors.

Your customers are vital members of your following, but following them in return can strengthen your relationship. As in any budding relationship, you'll get to know their likes and dislikes, which can aid your market research efforts and equip you to better meet their needs.

Use tools like HootSuite to help you keep track of who you follow. Remember: you're not the only one who likes to be followed.

By Preeana William and Sharon Campbell

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OAKLAND MUSEUM OF CA

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— Stacy Lasler
Oakland Museum of California

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Speaker Series with
Jim Hale

Saturday, June 28th
10:30am - 12:00pm

Native American Ethnobiology & Ethnobotany:

useful, edible, and medicinal plants featuring mini mobile museum of Ohlone artifacts

510-549-0211
101 Golf Course Dr. Berkeley

Tues: 12pm-3pm Fri. 9am-12pm
Sat: 10am-2pm

NativeHereNursery.org

PICKS

The Chabot Space & Science Center planetarium.

Courtesy of Chabot Space & Science Center

The Supper Club

The Chabot Space and Science Center (10000 Skyline Blvd., Oakland) isn't just for children and families. Its Supper Club is a monthly catered dinner paired with different themed activities, intended only for those 21 and over. June's iteration will include a dinner catered by Miragha and the opportunity to control a planetarium show. Dinner — a mixed baby lettuce salad and either braised boneless beef short ribs or stuffed portabello mushrooms, followed by fruit tartlets for dessert — and wine will be served in the planetarium while aerial footage of the Bay Area plays on the seventy-foot dome surface. Following the meal, participants can check out the planetarium's control room and even take over the controls of the show, flying to any destination in the cosmos and providing their own narration for the ride. — *Zaineb Mohammed*

Thursday, June 26, 6:15 p.m., $56 for members, $60 general admission. ChabotSpace.org

Family Day

In early 2016, the UC Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive (2626 Bancroft Way, Berkeley) will relocate to a new larger downtown location, which organizers hope will make the facility appeal to a wider audience, including, especially, families. In anticipation of the move, museum organizers will host their first Family Day on Sunday. Activities will include workshops in which kids can play with one hundred pounds of clay and create collages and stamps inspired by the new *Color Shift* exhibit. There will also be specially designed family tours of the galleries throughout the day and a performance by a cappella jazz, gospel, and world music ensemble SoVoSó. The day will conclude at the PFA Theater with a screening of animated short films adapted from children's books such as *The Emperor's New Clothes*, *Cat in the Hat*, and *Chicken Soup with Rice*, followed by a talk by children's author and illustrator Christy Hale. — *Z.M.*

Sunday, June 29, 11 a.m., free. BAMPFA.Berkeley.edu

4 a.m.-2 p.m., free.

Punt Flea + Bazaar and Bazaar A flea market and bazaar at the North Oakland Farmers Market. Vendors and artists of all kinds are invited to participate. Last Saturday of every month, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., free. 510-250-7557. [illegible]Produce.org.

Tile Rite Bargain Sale Bargain tile sale. Thu., June 26, 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Fri., June 27, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Sat., June 28, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Crossway Pavilion, 1404 Harbour Way South, Richmond. [illegible]

Vintage Mart Popup shop with vintage Oakland jewelry, and accessories as well as music and food. Saturdays, 12-7 p.m. Vamp, 310 19th St., Oakland.

SOCIAL EVENTS

Cato's Trivia Night Quiz-master Chuck B leads a weekly group pub quiz with prizes. Mondays, 7:30 p.m., free. Cato's Ale House, 3891 Piedmont Ave., Oakland. 510-655-3349. CatosAleHouse.com.

Ice Cream Social Brunch, and sampling different homemade ice cream flavors. Wed., July 2, 2 p.m., free. Hayward Public Library Weekes Branch, 27300 Patrick Ave., Hayward. 510-782-2155. Library.Hayward-Ca.gov

Playland-Not-at-the-Beach: Grown-Up Game Night Play fun pinball, [illegible] and Tetrid games. [illegible] Last Thursday of every month, 6-10 p.m., $10. PlaylandNotattheBeach, 10979 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito. Playland-Not-at-the-Beach.org.

SPORTS & OUTDOORS-PARTICIPATORY

12th and ad Walk [illegible] Featuring a quarter-mile and three-mile Oakland walk/run at Lake Merritt, as well as music, and a silent auction in order to raise awareness [illegible]. Sat., June 28, 8:45 a.m.-1 p.m., free. Oakland Senior Center, 200 Grand Ave., Oakland. 510-238-3284.

Jacqueline Walks: Gold Coast and Mayor's Homes Tour Walk Extended walk led by Robert Prescone to guide [illegible] sights and history of the Gold Coast area. Sat., June 28, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Mayor's Home and Garden, 2021 Grove St. Ave., Alameda. AlamedaInfo.gov/visitors/mayors-house-and-garden

Albany Stan Bazaar Town Two routes (one short, one long). Meet at Bazaar Crepe Cafe at 8 a.m. On the last run of the month, Bazaar Crepe Cafe will provide free coffee to runners. Sundays, 8-8:30 a.m., free.

Sock Interest Nature Pull Drop-in free-range French broom in El Cerrito's Hillside Natural Area. Tuesdays, 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Continues through Aug. 12, free. El Cerrito Hillside Natural Area, 1574 Douglas Ave., El Cerrito.

Bike Maintenance Basics: Presentation on Fix Take a chain, fix a flat tire, and make other minor adjustments to your bicycle. Thu., June 26, 1-4:30 p.m., free. REI Berkeley, 1338 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. 510-527-4140. REI.com

California International Triathlon Triathlon and sprint triathlon. Sat., June 28, 8 a.m. Sun., June 29, 8 a.m. Shadow Cliffs Regional Park, 2500 Stanley Blvd., Pleasanton. 925-846-3230. EBParks.org/Parks/Shadow_Cliffs.

Dragon Boat Racing Join the Alameda Dragon Flyers for free, learn-to-dragon-boating sessions. Equipment provided. Meets at 2450 Mariner Square Dr., Alameda. Saturdays, 8:45-10:30 a.m., free. 510-521-7565. AlamedaDragonFlyers.com.

Cycles Lake Chabot Night Ride Brunch, off-road mountain bike rides followed by pizza and beverages. Brunch, lights required. For intermediate to advanced riders. Contact [illegible] 510-470-2651 for more information. [illegible] 6:15 p.m., free. Lake Chabot Regional Park, 17600 Lake Chabot Rd., Castro Valley. 888-327-2757. EBParks.org/Parks/Lake_Chabot.

Friday Forest School Exploration of the forest and interactive nature sculpture building. Fridays, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Continues through July 25. $15. Redwood Regional Park, 7867 Redwood Rd., Oakland. 888-327-2757. EBParks.org.

Hooping Hoopdancing for people of all ages. Sundays, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., free. LoveofHooping.com. Jack London Square Farmers Market, Webster and Embarcadero, Oakland.

Litter Walk Help pick up litter on 55th Avenue between International Blvd and Holly Street. Sat., June 28, 10:15-11:30 a.m., Sat., July 12, 10:15-11:30 a.m., Sat., July 26, 10:15-11:30 a.m. Oakland Public Library, Elmhurst Branch, 1427 88th Ave., Oakland. 510-615-5727. OaklandLibrary.org.

Oakland Walking Tour Tour the city's landmarks, churches and highrises. Walking descriptions, dates, and starting locations are available at Oaklandnet.com/walkingtours. Wednesdays, Saturdays, 10-11:30 a.m., free.

The People's Community Yoga Drop-ins welcome. All levels encouraged to attend. Wednesdays, 7 p.m., $10. La Peña Cultural Center, 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-849-2568. LaPena.org

Pickleball A fast-paced game combining elements of tennis, ping pong, and volleyball. For all ages and experience levels. Played on the tennis courts. Tuesdays, 6 p.m., $3-$5, $2 paddle rental. 510-558-1219. AlbanyCa.org. Ocean View Field, 900 Buchanan St., Albany.

SAN Leagues Open Recode Gym Night Open dodgeball play. Mondays, 8 p.m., $5. [illegible] Middle School, 5750 College Ave., Oakland. 510-879-2910.

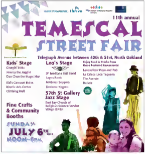
San Francisco Critical Mass Mass congregation of cyclists riding throughout San Francisco, to raise awareness of bike culture. Last Friday of every month, 5:30 p.m. Justin Herman Plaza, 1 Market St., San Francisco. EmbarcaderoCenter.com.

Velosophers Bike Ride A weekly group bike ride. Saturdays, 8:45 a.m., free. Warehouse 416, 416 26th St., Oakland. 510-922-1653. Warehouse416.com

SPORTS-SPECTATOR

The World Cup Televised The New Parkway will be broadcasting 43 of the 64 games in this year's tournament. Go to TheNewParkway.com for the full schedule. Through July 13, $0-$10. The New Parkway Theater, 474 24th St., Oakland. ●

Submissions for calendar listings should be e-mailed to Calendar@EastBayExpress.com or mailed to Calendar Editor, East Bay Express, 620 3rd St., Oakland, CA, 94607. Deadline is 14 days prior to the event date.



11th annual

TEMESCAL STREET FAIR

Telegraph Avenue between 40th & 51st, North Oakland

Kids' Stage

Cowgirl Tricks
Jeremy the Juggler
Dan Chan the Magic Man

Kid's Carousel Rides
Kinetic Arts Center
Climbing Wall

Leo's Stage

SF Medicine Ball Band
Lagos Roots
MJ Brass Boppers
Fantastic Negrito

57th St Gallery Jazz Stage

East Bay Church of Religious Science Vendor Village @41st

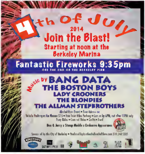
Enjoy Food & Drinks from these Featured Restaurants:

Lanesplitter Pizza and Pub
La Calaca Loca Taqueria
The Avenue
Barlata

Fine Crafts & Community Booths

SUNDAY
JULY 6TH 2014
NOON–6PM

Kaiser Permanente
thrive



4th of July

2014

Join the Blast!

Starting at noon at the Berkeley Marina

Fantastic Fireworks 9:35pm

OFF THE END OF THE BERKELEY PIER

Music by
BANG DATA
THE BOSTON BOYS
LADY CROONERS
THE BLONDIES
THE ALLMAN STEPBROTHERS

Alcohol-free Event • Free Admission
Vehicle Parking at the Marina $15 • Free Valet Bike Parking • Cars in by 6PM, out after 10PM only
Pony Rides • Carnival Rides • Crafts • Food

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It's Time to Vote for Best of the East Bay!

Where is your favorite brunch place? Who is your favorite local politician? What's the best new arts venue? Cast your votes for our Best of the East Bay issue! Voting begins on Wednesday, June 4.
Go to EastBayExpress.com/ballot to cast your votes.

Official Ballot Rules: No Cheating

All votes must be cast via our website. **All ballots must be submitted by midnight, Thursday, July 3.** Only one ballot per person. Your votes should be your own. Duplicate ballots reflecting slate voting will be discarded, as will ballots that have been influenced by gifts, discounts, or financial incentives. Valid ballots must have legitimate votes in at least 10 categories. Participants may submit comments about any winner – the best of which will be compiled and published in the Best of the East Bay issue (July 23, 2014).

Go to EastBayExpress.com/ballot to cast your votes.

EAST BAY EXPRESS

ARTS & CULTURE

- Best annual event
- Best art gallery
- Best artist
- Best band
- Best DJ night at a club
- Best local author
- Best local filmmaker
- Best museum
- Best music venue
- Best music festival
- Best new arts venue
- Best new cultural event
- Best place to see a movie
- Best record label
- Best theatrical play

GOODS & SERVICES

- Best arts and craft supplies
- Best bagels
- Best bakery
- Best barbershop
- Best bike shop
- Best bookstore
- Best boutique
- Best brewery
- Best butcher shop
- Best cannabis dispensary
- Best car repair
- Best children's store
- Best eyeglass shop
- Best farmers' market
- Best furniture store
- Best game store
- Best grocery store
- Best hair salon
- Best local winery
- Best locally produced goods
- Best new business
- Best pet store
- Best place for smoking accessories
- Best plant nursery
- Best record store
- Best sex shop
- Best shoe store
- Best spa
- Best tattoo shop or artist
- Best used or vintage clothing
- Best veterinarian
- Best wine shop

PEOPLE & PLACES

- Best activist
- Best co-working space
- Best cooperative
- Best company to work for
- Best local Instagram account
- Best local Twitter account
- Best neighborhood
- Best nonprofit or charity
- Best pick up spot
- Best place to learn DIY or homesteading skills
- Best place to take the kids
- Best place to walk your dog
- Best politician
- Best professor or college instructor
- Best views

RESTAURANTS & BARS

- Best African restaurant
- Best ambience at a restaurant
- Best bar
- Best barbecue
- Best bartender
- Best beer bar
- Best breakfast/brunch
- Best cafe
- Best chef
- Best Chinese restaurant
- Best cocktails
- Best coffee
- Best delivery service
- Best dessert place
- Best food at a bar
- Best ice cream
- Best Indian/Pakistani restaurant
- Best Italian restaurant
- Best Japanese/sushi restaurant
- Best kid-friendly restaurant
- Best Korean restaurant
- Best late-night food
- Best locally sourced/organic menu
- Best Mexican restaurant
- Best Middle Eastern restaurant
- Best mobile food vendor
- Best new bar
- Best new restaurant
- Best outdoor seating
- Best pizza
- Best restaurant for a date
- Best sandwiches
- Best seafood
- Best service at a restaurant
- Best Southeast Asian restaurant
- Best Southern/soul food
- Best vegetarian/vegan restaurant

SPORTS & LEISURE

- Best bike ride
- Best boot camp
- Best fitness class
- Best fitness instructor
- Best group athletic activity
- Best gym
- Best neighborhood park
- Best outdoor or sporting goods store
- Best place to hike
- Best place to picnic
- Best place to run
- Best place to swim
- Best yoga studio
- Best yoga teacher
- Most unusual athletic event

Category we didn't think of and winner

MUSEUMS & GALLERIES

ART GALLERIES

[illegible] Street Windows Gallery [illegible] Through July [illegible] Berkeley [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] Through Aug. 31. [illegible] Berkeley [illegible]

[illegible] Museum [illegible] Library of Oakland *[illegible]* [illegible] Oakland [illegible]

Alameda Free Library [illegible] Through June 28. [illegible] Alameda [illegible]

Albany Arts Gallery [illegible] Through June 29. [illegible] Albany [illegible] AlbanyArtsGallery.com.

[illegible] [illegible] Through July 7. [illegible] Berkeley [illegible]

[illegible] Gallery [illegible] Through Aug. 31. [illegible]

Berkeley Art Center. [illegible] Berkeley [illegible] BerkeleyArtCenter.org.

Berkeley Central Arts Passage. [illegible] Through Aug. 30. [illegible] Berkeley

Berkeley Public Library, Central [illegible] Through July 8. [illegible] Berkeley [illegible]

[illegible] Gallery and Shop. [illegible] Through June 28. [illegible] Oakland [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] Through June 30. [illegible] Oakland, [illegible]

[illegible] Berkeley, [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] Through July 24. [illegible] Oakland [illegible]

[illegible] Gallery [illegible] Through July 8. [illegible] Oakland [illegible]

[illegible] Oakland [illegible] *[illegible]* [illegible] Through July 23. [illegible] Oakland.

[illegible] Framing & Gallery [illegible] Through June 30. [illegible] Oakland [illegible]

[illegible] Art [illegible] [illegible] Through June 27. [illegible] Berkeley [illegible]

[illegible] Center [illegible] Through Sept. 4. [illegible] Berkeley [illegible]

Doug Adams Gallery. [illegible] Through Aug. 28. [illegible] Berkeley [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] Through July 13. [illegible] Oakland [illegible]

[illegible] Gallery [illegible] Through July 11. [illegible] Berkeley [illegible]

[illegible] Center and Art Gallery [illegible] Through July 13. [illegible] Oakland [illegible]

[illegible] *[illegible]* [illegible] Through June 28. [illegible] Oakland. [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] Through Aug. 8. [illegible] Berkeley [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] Through July 31. [illegible] Oakland [illegible]

[illegible] Gallery [illegible] Through July 15. [illegible] Oakland, [illegible]

[illegible] Gallery [illegible] Through July 19. [illegible] Lafayette [illegible]

[illegible] Gallery [illegible] Through Aug. 31. [illegible] Berkeley [illegible]

Johansson Projects. [illegible] Through Aug. 2. [illegible] Oakland [illegible] JohanssonProjects.com

[illegible] [illegible] Oakland, [illegible]

[illegible] Gallery [illegible] Through June 28. [illegible] Oakland, [illegible]

Kala Art Institute Gallery [illegible] Featuring new work by the 2013-2014 Kala Fellows. Through July 26. [illegible] Berkeley [illegible]

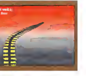
[illegible] [illegible] Through Aug. 30. [illegible] Berkeley, [illegible]

La Peña Cultural Center. [illegible] Through June 30. [illegible] Berkeley [illegible] LaPena.org.

[illegible] Building. [illegible] Through Sept. 20. [illegible] Oakland, [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible]

PICKS



Forrest Bess: Seeing Things Invisible

Forrest Bess was a fisherman, painter, biological theorist and self-proclaimed visionary who lived in near isolation on the Texas Gulf Coast for most of his life. He consistently experienced hallucinations and visions that emerged through a unique vocabulary of symbols. Bess translated these symbols into paintings rendered in rich pigments and rough textures that offer a visceral viewing experience. Many of those works are now on view at BAM/PFA (2626 Bancroft Way, Berkeley) in the fascinating show *Forrest Bess: Seeing Things Invisible*. Bess believed that his visions pointed to a broader universal truth about collective consciousness. His theory involved the argument that by merging the two biological sexes through surgery — a procedure that he underwent himself — one could attain immortality. He spent years compiling his "thesis," a book that outlined evidence for this theory. Bess' "thesis" and his paintings corresponded crucially, but he was never given the opportunity to show them together before he died in 1977. Although the actual book is now lost, BAM/PFA is displaying an array of ephemera regarding his scholarship, along with his paintings, in order to offer the closest experience possible to the first full realization of Bess' bizarrely beautiful vision. — *Sarah Burke*

Runs through Sept. 14. $10, $7 for seniors, students, and youths age 13-17; free for members, UC Berkeley students and staff and children under age 12. 510-642-0808 or BAMPFA.Berkeley.edu

[illegible] Through June 30. [illegible] Oakland.

[illegible] Gallery. [illegible] Through July 28. [illegible] Oakland, [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] Through June 28. [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] Through Feb. 27, 2015. [illegible] Berkeley

[illegible] [illegible] Through July 27. [illegible] Berkeley [illegible]

[illegible] Gallery. [illegible] Through June 28. [illegible]

[illegible] Through June 28. [illegible] Oakland, [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] Through June 30. [illegible] Oakland.

[illegible] Gallery [illegible] Through July 13. [illegible] Oakland [illegible]

[illegible] Art Center [illegible] Through June 27. [illegible] Through June 27. [illegible] Through June 27. [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] Through July 19. [illegible] Oakland, [illegible]

Oakland Asian Cultural Center. [illegible] Oakland, [illegible]

Oakland City Hall. [illegible] Through June 30. [illegible] Oakland.

Oakland Public Library [illegible] Through June 27. [illegible] Oakland [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] Through July 26. [illegible] Oakland, [illegible]

[illegible] Art Gallery [illegible] Through July 31. [illegible] Fremont, 510-791-4357. [illegible]

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PHOTO: *Soul of Botanicals* [illegible] Exhibition benefiting the San Marcos Botanical Garden. Through July 12. 473 25th St., Oakland, 510-407-0448, PHOTOGalleryOakland.com.

[illegible] at 4 Gallery: *How High the Sky: Measuring the Infinite.* Exhibition of works by [illegible]. Through Aug. 2. 2005 Lincoln Ave., Alameda, 510-865-1209, [illegible]Alameda.org.

[illegible] Middle Bay Area: *In the Beginning Was Black.* Solo exhibition of work by Bay Area artist Clifford Rainey. Through July 12. 4614 [illegible] St., Emeryville, 510-596-1210, [illegible].

Rhythmix Cultural Works: [illegible] *Landscapes.* Exhibit of photographs by Jan [illegible] and paintings by Cathy Parsons. Through July 3. Free. 2513 Blanding Ave., Alameda, 510-865-5060, Rhythmix.org.

Richmond Art Center: *Sticky and Solid: Sculptures, Drawings, and Related Artist Sculptures,* drawings, and illustrations showcasing the sensibilities and works of UC Berkeley works and professors Joseph Slusky and Chip Sullivan. Through Aug. 22. Free. *Annual Members Show.* Exhibition of more than 100 and in a range of media, including screen-printing, ceramics, [illegible] painting, drawing, photography, sculpture, and weaving. Through Aug. 22. Free. *Ruth Braunstein: Focus on Clay.* Exhibition of artwork from Bay Area art icon Ruth Braunstein's private collection of clay objects with artwork by Peter Voulkos, Robert Brady, [illegible], Fig, Robert Arneson, and others. Through Aug. 22. Free. *Sculpture!* Exhibition of artwork in an array of styles and media by members of the Pacific Rim Sculptors Group. Through Aug. 22. Free. 2540 Barrett Ave., Richmond, 510-620-6772, TheRichmondArtCenter.org.

Royal Nonesuch Gallery: Erik and [illegible]: Art Show. Exhibition of works by the two artists. Opening reception on Saturday, June 28 from 7-10 p.m. June 28-July 20. 4231 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 415-640-3041, RoyalNonesuchGallery.com.

Saint Mary's College: *2014 [illegible] of [illegible]:* Exhibit of the winning and finalist art and poetry for the River of Words. Through June 30. Free. [illegible] Moraga, 925-631-4000, StMarys-ca.edu.

San Pablo Art Gallery: *Artists [illegible] the Street: Paintings* by Ulysses Cruz, Shirley Nobel and Eleanor Dunnan Nelson. Through June 29. Free. 13831 San Pablo Ave., San Pablo, 510-860-8673, [illegible].

[illegible] & Tell Concept Shop: [illegible] *Portraits of* [illegible]. Features work by photographers Mike Vangas and Meg Allen. Opening reception June 24 from 6-8 p.m. Through Aug. 30. 5300 Clay St., Oakland, ShowandTellOakland.com.

SLATE contemporary: *Fine [illegible] Photography.* Featuring photography by [illegible], Diane Rosenblum, [illegible], Kurt Hemmerling, and [illegible]. Through June 28. 473 25th St., Oakland, 510-[illegible]-0450, SlateArtAndDesign.com.

Transmission Gallery: Illustrations Exhibition of contemporary art by Members of The Northern California [illegible] for Art (NORCA). Through July 19. 770 West Grand Ave., Oakland, 510-812-3133, TheTransmissionGallery.com.

[illegible]: Bold [illegible] exhibition exploring the physicality of artmaking [illegible]. Through Aug. 16. [illegible] Ave., Berkeley, 510-527-1214, [illegible].com.

The UC Theatre Gallery: [illegible] Exhibition: Pop-up exhibitions at the UC Berkeley Gallery as part of the campaign to "Turn on the Lights." Tours of the theater can be [illegible]. Through June 17. Free. 2036 University Ave., Berkeley.

Uptown District: Saturday [illegible] Art Murmur [illegible]. Visit OaklandArtMurmur.org [illegible] full list of participating galleries. Saturdays, 1-5 p.m. 19th St. at Telegraph Ave., Oakland.

Vessel Gallery: [illegible] by Gordon Glasgow and [illegible] and painting by Iris Polos. With music performance by The Hayden [illegible] on Thursday June 19 at 7 p.m. Through July 12. 471 25th St., Oakland.

Warehouse 416: *Limited, Lyrical,* [illegible] Featuring works by [illegible]. With art and poetry works on Friday June 20 from 3-5 p.m. Through July 26. [illegible] Forest [illegible] works displayed and for sale [illegible]. Fri. June 27, 6:30-10 p.m. 416 26th St., Oakland, 510-922-1653, Warehouse416.com.

Wheeler Hall: *Milton* exhibition. [illegible] and Theoretically collaborative project to [illegible] medieval [illegible] relating to John Milton and his work. Through Dec. 31. UC Berkeley, [illegible].

MUSEUMS

Bancroft Library: *The Originals Exhibition* highlighting the Regional Oral History Office's project to [illegible] with 28 pioneering African American faculty and senior administrators who joined Berkeley [illegible] in the wake of affirmative action [illegible] in the 1970s. Through Sept. 1. UC Berkeley campus, Bancroft. Berkeley.edu.

BAM/PFA: *What Mountains?* Installation by multimedia artist Sam Durant at the end of the new BAM/PFA museum on Center and Oxford [illegible]. Through Oct. 15. *Endangering Human Rights: The Next Generation* [illegible] paintings, photographs, and prints by emerging artists/activists [illegible] across the state, addressing [illegible] human rights [illegible]. Through Sept. 14. *The Elephant's Eye: Art of [illegible] in South & Southeast Asia.* Exhibition featuring [illegible] paintings, [illegible] and sculptures from India, Thailand, and Cambodia to [illegible] the many ways [illegible] religion, politics, culture, and history. Sign language [illegible] and [illegible] Tuesday May 15 at 1:30 p.m. Through June 29. [illegible] paintings with an installation of [illegible] by sculptor Robert Gober, [illegible] *The Man That Got Away,* which illustrates [illegible] art and life. Through Sept. 14. [illegible] Exhibition of [illegible] from the early [illegible] century to the present that explore color relationships within [illegible] compositions, [illegible] work by Jennifer Bartlett, [illegible], Ruth Laskey, [illegible], Jackson Pollock, Mark Rothko, and more. Through Aug. 24. [illegible] Through June 29. *Family Day* [illegible] Sat., June 28, 2:30 p.m. *Hans Hofmann* by Hofmann Exhibition of nearly 50 paintings by Hans Hofmann given as a gift to the UC [illegible]. July 2-Dec. 21. $7-$10, free for members. 2626 Bancroft Way, Berkeley, 510-642-0808, BAMPFA.Berkeley.edu.

Contemporary Jewish Museum: *Black Sabbath:* [illegible] journey through a unique [illegible] the black-Jewish [illegible] from the 1930s to the 1960s. Daily. 736 Mission St., San Francisco, 415-655-7800.

Doe Library: *Portugal's* [illegible] *Revolution April 25, 1974.* Exhibition commemorating the fortieth anniversary of Portugal's [illegible] military coup and transition from dictatorship to democracy. Through Sept. 2. UC Berkeley campus, Berkeley, [illegible].

Exploratorium: *Tools of Life:* A collection of [illegible] and demonstrations [illegible] museum to all living things. Daily. 3601 Lyon St., San Francisco, 415-561-0360, Exploratorium.edu.

[illegible]: [illegible] *the 1930s: Photographs from the* [illegible] *Archive* [illegible] collection of photographs that [illegible] from the 1937 [illegible] Tibet [illegible]. Through July 24. 2323 [illegible] St., Berkeley, 510-643-8636, [illegible]berkeley.edu.

[illegible]: [illegible] Celebrating Diversity Through [illegible]. An ongoing [illegible] show. Daily. 2071 [illegible] St., Oakland, 510-437-[illegible].

Lacis Museum of Textiles: *Smocking Fabric [illegible] and Beyond:* An exhibit examining smocking and the art of textile manipulation historically and [illegible]. Through Dec. 4. [illegible] exhibition looking at a century of [illegible] and women's clothing. Through Sept. 6. 2982 Adeline St., Berkeley, 510-843-7290, LacisMuseum.org.

Lawrence Hall of Science: [illegible] Exhibit exploring the world of bugs [illegible] play a [illegible] role in our environment, culture, and the global economy. Through Sept. 1. *Science on a Sphere (SOS)* [illegible] globe [illegible] around the planet. Daily. [illegible] 1 Centennial Dr., Berkeley, 510-642-5132, LawrenceHallofScience.org.

Magnes Collection of Jewish Art and Life: *Saved by The Sky: The Intellectual Migration from Fascist Europe to UC Berkeley.* Exhibition based on a student [illegible] project that [illegible] the story of scholars who [illegible] Europe [illegible] the University of California. Opening reception on Thursday, Mar. 13 from 5-7 p.m. Through June 27. 2121 Allston Way, Berkeley, 510-643-2526, Magnes.org.

Oakland Museum of California: [illegible] and Superheroes. [illegible] Installation co-curated with faculty and students of San Diego State University [illegible] the themes of gender [illegible] San Diego's [illegible] the social and political ramifications [illegible] through the ages. Through May 31, 2015. $6-$15, free for children 8 and for members. [illegible] *of Fog in San Francisco:* Filmmaker Sam Green and cinematographer Andy Black present a video work [illegible] of fog. Through June 29. [illegible] *The Sound and* [illegible] Exhibit exploring the works and famous phenomenon of traveling to, collecting, and sharing [illegible]. Through July 27. *Inspiration Points: Masterpieces of California Landscape* [illegible] from the museum's [illegible]. Through July 13. *Judy Chicago: A Butterfly for Oakland* [illegible] Super 8 footage [illegible] documenting *A Butterfly for Oakland,* Judy Chicago's 1974 site-specific installation on the shore of Lake Merritt. Through Nov. 30. [illegible] exploring everyday Mexican [illegible] from the collection of [illegible] artist [illegible]. Through July 6. *Bay Motion: Exploring San Francisco Bay on Film:* Selection of [illegible] from the Prelinger Archives [illegible] the San Francisco Bay and the surrounding region have been captured on film by [illegible] professional and amateur camera [illegible]. Through June 29. [illegible] Exhibition featuring the work of fifteen contemporary artists associated with the magazine [illegible], a celebration of Asian and Asian American pop and alternative culture. Through July 27. *Architecture of the Museum:* Members of [illegible] on Architecture [illegible] tour of the mid-century modernist landmark building. Sundays, 1 p.m. Exhibition: Through June 29. $15 for adults, $10 for seniors and students, $6 for youth, and free for [illegible] children 8 and under. 1000 Oak St., Oakland, 510-318-8400, MuseumCA.org.

Peralta Hacienda Historical Park: *What I Hear, I Keep: Stories from Oakland's* [illegible] Exhibit [illegible] African-American [illegible] of modern-day [illegible] experiences of [illegible] residents. Wednesdays-Saturdays. 2465 34th Ave., Oakland, 510-532-9142, PeraltaHacienda.org.

Western Railway Museum: *Northern Lights* Exhibit on the future of energy and [illegible] paintings, highlighting [illegible] energy solutions. Daily. $10 for adults, $9 for seniors, $7 for kids. 5848 State Highway 12, Suisun City, 707-374-2978, wrm.org. ●

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Cruz Skate Shop, 2505 San Pablo Ave
Extreme Pizza, 3204 College Ave
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Gaumenkitzel, 2121 San Pablo Ave
Global Exchange, 2840 College Ave
Herbivore, 2451 Shattuck Ave
La Peña Cultural Center
3105 Shattuck Ave
Local Butcher Shop, 1600 Shattuck Ave
Looking Glass Photography
1045 Ashby Ave
Minuteman Press, 1101 Fifth St
NextSpace, 2081 Center St
Pasta Bene, 2565 Telegraph Ave
Phoenix Pastificio, 1250 Addison St
Rangoon Super Stars, 2826 Telegraph Ave
Semifreddi's, 3084 Claremont Ave
Tara's Organic Ice Cream
3173 College Ave
Thalassa, 2367 Shattuck Ave
The Beck Pig's House, 5973 Shattuck Ave
The Joint Chiropractic, 2628 Telegraph Ave
Yoga Kula, 1700 Shattuck Ave

EMERYVILLE

Arizmendi Café, 4301 San Pablo Ave
Farley's Coffee, 1195 65th St
Honor Kitchen & Cocktails, 1411 Powell St
Hot Italian, 5959 Shellmound
Rudy's Can't Fail Café, 4081 Hollis St
Sobo Kick Gym, 6460 Hollis St

OAKLAND

Battambang, 850 Broadway
Bath One Gallery, 1427 Broadway
Bicycle Coffee, 384 2nd St
Boniere Bakery, 3249 Grand Ave
Book Tree, 6121 La Salle Ave
Charles Blaine Barber Spa, 401 2nd St
Earth Circles Counseling Center
560 Oakland Ave
Earthly Coffee Shop,
5506 Martin Luther King Jr Way
Feelmore, 1703 Telegraph Ave
Field Day, 829 19th St
Flight Deck, 1540 Broadway
Freelove Music School, 1721 Broadway
GB Batte's International Market
821 Washington St
Harmonic Vintage, 1601 2nd Ave
Hot Bac Espresso Bar & Fine Art Gallery,
1714 Franklin St
Impact HUB, 2323 Broadway
Jomon and the Giant Cupcake
6326 San Pablo Ave
Kelly's Corner Kids, 2029 MacArthur Blvd
KiloVolt Coffee, 1829 Mandela Pkwy
Kingfish Pub & Café, 5227 Claremont Ave
Knimble, 3258 Grand Ave
Lake Merritt Dental, 1900 Webster St
LeQniVive, 1525 Webster St
Legionnaire Saloon, 2272 Telegraph Ave
Lookal Boutique & Gallery, 580 2nd St
Lost & Found Beer Garden,
2040 Telegraph Ave
Mandela Market, 1430 7th St
Marcus Books, 3900 Martin Luther King Jr
Miliki, 2725 MacArthur Blvd
The New Parkway Theater, 474 24th St
Night Light, 311 Broadway
Nomadic Sojourns, 2926 Foothill Blvd
OakStop, 1721 Broadway
Peoples Donut Farm, 6037 San Pablo Ave
Petco Unleashed, 3300 Lakeshore Ave
Piedmont Grocery, 4038 Piedmont Ave
Pollinate Farm & Garden
2727 Fruitvale Ave
Resurrect, 4135 Piedmont Ave
Rockridge Library, 5366 College Ave
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Richmond Arts Center, 2540 Barrett Ave
Up & Under Restaurant,
2 West Richmond Ave

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Sabina's Coffee, 1273 MacArthur Blvd
Sweet Fingers Jamaican Restaurant,
464 E. 14th St
Zocalo Coffee, 645 Bancroft Ave

THEATER & DANCE

COMEDY

[illegible] Comedy Night Theatre, night hosted by [illegible]. [illegible] p.m. $10. MLK Cafe, 3867 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, [illegible] 510-450-0600.

Rena A. Blanc One-man comedy show. Sat., June 28, 8 p.m. $10. Englander Sports Pub, 101 Parrott St., San Leandro, 510-357-3571, EnglanderPub.com.

Intro to Improv [illegible] Sat., June 28, 1:30-4 p.m. $20-$25. Rhythmix Cultural Works, 2513 Blanding Ave., Alameda, 510-865-5060, Rhythmix.org.

Layover Comedy Mic [illegible] Bay Area comedians. Tuesdays, 8:30-10 p.m., free. The Layover, 1517 Franklin St., Oakland, 510-834-1517, OaklandLayover.com.

Marsh Comedy Jam With [illegible] improv, standup comedy and music. Fridays, 8 p.m. Continues through June 27, $10. The Marsh Arts Center, 2120 Allston Way, Berkeley, 510-704-8291, TheMarsh.org.

Shaw Along, Nothing to See Here With host Joey Devon. Mondays, 7:30 p.m., free. The Night Light, 311 Broadway, Oakland, 510-433-0140, TheNightLightOakland.com.

Open Mic Comedy A weekly open mic for both seasoned and up-and-coming comedians. Sundays, 8 p.m., one-drink minimum. Continental Club, 1658 12th St., Oakland, 510-444-0000, Facebook.com/ContinentalComedy.

Open Ivy Comedy Night Weekly comedy night. Mondays, 8:30 p.m. Ivy Room, 860 San Pablo Ave., Albany, 510-526-5888, IvyRoom.com.

Pride [illegible] Fri., June 27, 7:30 p.m. $18. Pacific Pinball Museum, 1510 Webster St., Alameda, 510-205-6345, PacificPinball.org.

Gala Theatre, Gala Split Bay Area comedian Gina Gala presents [illegible]. Fourth Thursday of every month, 7:30 p.m. $10. La Peña Cultural Center, 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-849-2568, LaPena.org.

Stork Club Comedy [illegible] hosted by CJ Patterson. Thursdays, [illegible] p.m., free. Stork Club, 2330 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-444-6174, StorkClubOakland.com.

DANCE-PERFORMANCE

Fallen Heroes, Rising Stars: A [illegible] Celebration Through [illegible] Performance by [illegible] Dance [illegible] honoring African-American dance artists that have died since the year 2000. Fri., June 27, 8-10:30 p.m., Sat., June 28, 8-11 p.m. $25-$30. Pittsburg California Theatre, 351 Railroad Ave., Pittsburg, 925-427-1047, PittsburgCaliforniaTheatre.com.

International Day of Congolese Dance and Drum Featuring workshops and performances by artists and instructors in Congolese [illegible]. Sat., June 28, 3:30 p.m. $15-$20. Oakland Asian Cultural Center, 388 9th St., Oakland, 510-637-0455, OACC.cc.

La Bomba's 3rd Anniversary [illegible] y Bomba Afro-Puerto Rican [illegible] by La Peña students. Sat., June 28, 3-10 p.m. $21. La Peña Cultural Center, 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-849-2568, LaPena.org.

San Francisco Ethnic Dance Festival Includes eleven world premieres and [illegible] dances from Bali, [illegible] Brazil, [illegible] the Philippines, [illegible] Sat., June 28, 2 & 8 p.m., Sun., June 29, 2 p.m. $18-$58. Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, 700 Howard St., San Francisco, 415-978-2787, YBCA.org.

What Stays Performance by [illegible] Performances and Dance Up Close/East Bay Fri., June 27, 8 p.m., Sat., June 28, 8 p.m., Sun., June 29, 5 p.m. $20-$30. Shawl-Anderson Dance Center, 2704 Alcatraz Ave., Berkeley, 510-654-5921, ShawlAnderson.org.

LIVE VARIETY

[illegible] Performance by [illegible] Bay [illegible] international burlesque star [illegible] Fri., June 27, 9 p.m., $15-$20. The Uptown, 1928 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-451-8100, UptownNightclub.com.

Rebel Kings A drag show featuring Vegas John, Dandy Punk, [illegible] Oakland [illegible] First Wednesday of every month, 9 p.m. $5. White Horse Inn, 6551 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-652-3820, WhiteHorseBar.com.

THEATER & PERFORMING ARTS

American Buffalo David Mamet's play about three small-time crooks who plan to rob a man of his coin collection, including what they believe to be an extremely valuable "buffalo nickel." Through July 13. Aurora Theatre, 2081 Addison St., Berkeley, 510-843-4822, AuroraTheatre.org.

The Comedy of Errors [illegible] William Shakespeare's farcical comedy about mistaken identity. [illegible] CalShakes.org [illegible] Through July 20, $35-$80. Bruns Amphitheater, 100 California Shakespeare Theater Way, Orinda.

Dead Man's Cell Phone Sarah Ruhl's comedy about a woman forced to defend her own assumptions about [illegible] redemption and the need to connect in a technologically-obsessed world. Thursdays-Saturdays, 8 p.m. Continues through June 28, $22. Masquers Playhouse, 105 Park Pl., Point Richmond, 510-232-4031, Masquers.org.

[illegible] [illegible] Fitzgerald presented by [illegible] Company. Thu., June 26, 8 p.m., Fri., June 27, 8 p.m., Sat., June 28, 8 p.m., Sun., June 29, 2:30 p.m., Wed., July 2, 7:30 p.m., Thu., July 3, 8 p.m., Sat., July 5, 8 p.m., Sun., July 6, 2:30 p.m., $45. Lesher Center for the Arts, 1601 Civic Dr., Walnut Creek, 925-295-1400, LesherArtsCenter.org.

[illegible] The story of love, lust and betrayal [illegible] Fri., June 27, 7 p.m., Sat., June 28, 7 p.m. $25-$30. Malonga Casquelourd Center for the Arts, 1428 Alice St., Oakland, MCCAtheatre.com.

The Intelligent Homosexual's Guide to Capitalism and Socialism with a Key to the Scriptures Tony Kushner's three-act play about the family drama that ensues when retired longshoreman Gus Marcantonio [illegible] his three [illegible]. Through June 29. $45-$73. [illegible] Theatre, 2015 Addison St., Berkeley, [illegible], BerkeleyRep.org.

Nantucket [illegible] solo show about growing up in Nantucket, featuring guest [illegible] music, humor and [illegible] photography [illegible]. Through July 19. $20-$30. The Marsh Arts Center, 2120 Allston Way, Berkeley, 510-704-8291, TheMarsh.org.

Not a Genuine Black Man Solo show by Brian Copeland about growing up black in the 1970s in San Leandro, California. Through June 28. $15-$40. The Osher Studio, 2025 Addison St., Berkeley, BerkeleyRep.org.

A [illegible] Procedure [illegible] Theatre's production about how a [illegible] surgical procedure [illegible] to do an emergency hysterectomy, destroying the hopes and dreams of her young patient. Wed., July 2, 7 p.m. The Flight Deck, 1540 Broadway, Oakland, [illegible], TheFlightDeck.org.

Shrek the Musical The story of an ogre who goes on a life-changing adventure. By [illegible] and David Lindsay-Abaire, directed by Elizabeth McKoy. Sundays, 12 & 5 p.m., Saturdays, 1 & 5 p.m. Continues through Aug. 3. $17-$30. Julia Morgan Theater for the Arts, 2640 College Ave., Berkeley, 510-845-8542, JuliaMorgan.org. ●

American Buffalo, now in production at Aurora Theatre Company, runs through July 13. David Allen

THEATER REVIEW

OGRE AND ABOVE

Berkeley Playhouse's *Shrek the Musical* is a roaring good time

By Anna Pulley

Traditional fairy tales are often snoozers, full of froufrou princesses that sing to rodents and white-bread princes whose only "charms" seem to be providing last-minute lip service to their comatose girlfriends. We know who the bad guy is because he or she always wears some kind of cape. And on and on. What's great about *Shrek the Musical*, the latest production from Berkeley Playhouse, is that it mocks these conventions at the same time that it revels in them, with spirited dance numbers and infectious glee.

You probably know the plot if you've seen the DreamWorks Animation movie starring Mike Myers and Eddie Murphy, read the book by William Steig, or have stoner friends. If not, here's an overview: The creatures from many classic fairy tales (Pinocchio, the three little pigs, the seven dwarfs, the gingerbread man, the wolf from *Little Red Riding Hood*, etc.) have been cast out of the kingdom by the short-statured and short-tempered Lord Farquaad (played in this production by Clay David) and into the swamp of Shrek (Tony Panighetti). Not fond of the company, the ogre heads to Farquaad's castle, along with the motormouth Donkey (Brian Dauglish) to plead with the cruel and fey ruler. Farquaad agrees to give Shrek the deed to his swamp if he rescues the sassy princess Fiona (Chloe Condon), who's been trapped in a dragon-guarded tower since she was seven, and needs to find her one true love to break the curse that turns her into an ogre every night.

As the show's boorish-yet-endearing protagonist, Shrek was somewhat underwhelming. Panighetti has a powerful voice, to be sure, and he nailed the Scottish accent, but his affect was fairly tame as he ambled along his journey, as if the bigness of the padded ogre costume was getting in the way of the bigness of his character. Shrek's personality starts to shine through once his interactions with Fiona pick up steam in Act Two, and their comic back and forth gives the production some much needed oomph. While her singing was a bit nasally at times, Condon possessed headstrong energy and searing wit. In the song "Morning Person," the recently released Fiona sings of the potential joys that every new day brings, even as her excitability ruins all the things she touches. The scene makes fun of the usual communing with nature that most fairy tale heroines engage in. Whether she's killing birds with her falsetto, beheading Bambi, or tap-dancing with a chorus line of rats, Condon brings a signature verve and pomp to the princess oeuvre.

However, Davis, as the villainous puppet-legged Lord Farquaad, was the real showstopper. His gleeful prima-donna preening and vaudevillian showmanship were incredibly fun to watch. I almost found myself rooting for him to win, especially considering the fact that he spent the entirety of his stage time, including several dance numbers, on his knees in order to create Farquaad's dwarfed frame. Other props go to the winning and spirited ensemble cast, made up of actors of all ages. In particular, the gal playing Humpty Dumpty commanded the entire stage whenever she was on it, despite having very few lines, and her japes were exceptional. And Matthew McCoy's direction and choreography were tight, jazzy, and full of fantastical appeal.

Kev Levin

Lord Farquaad (played by Clay David) is the play's real showstopper.

Though the musical is ostensibly for children, adult humor abounds — but don't worry, parents, the grown-up jokes should go right over the kids' heads. Many pop-culture references also make their way into the play — Kim and Kanye's recent wedding, for instance, and Carly Rae Jepsen's "Call Me Maybe." Other musicals, including *Dreamgirls* and *Rent*, also get a few nods.

There were some, shall we say, interesting wardrobe choices made by the costume team (Wendy Ross Kaufman and Leona Schrader Dee). Some of the outfits were fanciful and terrific — those of Pinocchio, the dragon, and the three blind mice, for instance — while others were crude and somewhat distracting (Shrek's parents were paper cutouts tacked to their bodies, and Donkey's face makeup looked more grandmotherly than equine). Since Berkeley Playhouse involves many children in its productions, it's possible that these inconsistencies were a result of that fact, in which case I am an asshole, and you may disregard this paragraph in its entirety. In any case, even if the costumes were distracting at times, Robert Broadfoot's scenery and set design, which captured much of the untamed majesty of a fairy tale world and Steig's original drawings, were wonderful.

The songs are as uplifting as they are sly and clever, with book and lyrics by Pulitzer Prize-winner David Lindsay-Abaire, and music by Jeanine Tesori. It's a show full of substance, and despite its goal of subverting the fairy tale genre, of course love prevails, good triumphs over evil, and the ending is sure to leave you living happily ever after — or at least for the next several hours. ●

Editor@EastBayExpress.com

Show Details

Shrek the Musical runs through Aug. 3 at Julia Morgan Theatre (2640 College Ave., Berkeley). $17-$60. BerkeleyPlayhouse.org.

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LECTURES

2014 [illegible] Expo Conference bringing [illegible] together with [illegible] fiction with [illegible], exhibits, workshops, and presentations. [illegible] Sat., June 28, [illegible] Oakland [illegible] Center, [illegible] 510-451-4000.

[illegible] Learn about [illegible] West African songs, [illegible], dancing, and drumming. Tue., July 1, 7 p.m. [illegible] Public Library [illegible] Branch, 3140 Fruitvale Ave., Oakland, 510-482-7844. [illegible]

In [illegible] of the [illegible] In conjunction with the exhibition [illegible] Photographs from the [illegible] Archive, [illegible] Thu., June 26, 4-6 p.m. [illegible] Fulton St., Berkeley, [illegible]

Julia Bryan-Wilson on Judy [illegible] [illegible] Fri., June 27, 7:30 p.m. [illegible] Oakland Museum of California, 1000 Oak St., Oakland, 510-318-8400, MuseumCA.org.

Plastic-Free July Workshop Author and [illegible] Beth Terry will [illegible] strategies for reducing use of disposable plastic [illegible]. Sun., June 29, 1-3 p.m. [illegible] Ecology Center, 2530 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley, 510-548-2220, EcologyCenter.org.

Revolutionary [illegible] Oakland [illegible] Sat., June 28, noon. La Peña Cultural Center, 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-849-2568, LaPena.org.

Berkeley for Peace [illegible] [illegible] on the state of Europe on June 28, 1914, the day the [illegible] triggering the start of the First World War. Sat., June 28, 3-5 p.m., [illegible] Arlington Community Church, 52 Arlington Ave., Berkeley, 510-526-0146.

Talk and Play: [illegible] [illegible] Quartet, [illegible] Sat., June 28, [illegible] p.m. Oakland Museum of California, 1000 Oak St., Oakland, 510-318-8400, MuseumCA.org.

LITERARY EVENTS

Alan Furst [illegible] Midnight in Europe. Thu., June 26, 7 p.m. [illegible] 1760 Fourth St., Berkeley, 510-525-7777, [illegible]

[illegible] The poets [illegible] Sun., June 29, [illegible] Art House Gallery & Cultural Center, [illegible] Ave., Berkeley, 510-472-3170, [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] Mon., June 30, 7:30 p.m. Mrs. Dalloway's, 2904 College Ave., Berkeley, 510-704-8222, [illegible]

Art [illegible] Oakland [illegible] Mondays, [illegible] p.m. [illegible] 26th St., Oakland, 510-384-3148, [illegible]

[illegible] Thu., June 26, 7-9:30 p.m., free. Berkeley City College, 2050 Center St., Berkeley, [illegible]

[illegible] Writers [illegible] [illegible] Thursdays, 7-9 p.m. [illegible] 1601 Paru St., Alameda, 510-523-6957, [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] Tue., July 1, 7 p.m. [illegible] 1760 Fourth St., Berkeley, 510-525-7777, [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] Wed., July 2, 8-9 p.m. [illegible] 2508 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-540-0851, [illegible]

The East Bay Mystery [illegible] [illegible] Walden Pond Books, 3316 Grand Ave., Oakland, 510-832-4438, WaldenPondBooks.com.

Free Book Exchange [illegible] Saturdays, Sundays, 8 a.m.-6 p.m., free. 510-[illegible] [illegible] 1600 San Pablo Ave. [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] Thu., June 26, 7:30-9:30 p.m., [illegible] St. John's Presbyterian Church, 2727 College Ave., Berkeley, 510-845-6830.

[illegible] [illegible] Thu., June 26, 7:30-8:30 p.m. [illegible] 480 13th St., Oakland, 415-[illegible]

Jerry [illegible] and [illegible] [illegible] Tue., July 1, 8-9 p.m., free. Diesel, A Bookstore, 5433 College Ave., Oakland, 510-653-9965, [illegible]

Judy [illegible] The writers [illegible] Wed., July 2, 8 p.m. [illegible] 1344 Park St., Alameda, 510-521-2626, [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] Fri., June 27, 6-8 p.m., free. University Press Books, 2430 Bancroft Way, Berkeley, 510-548-0585, UniversityPressBooks.com.

[illegible] [illegible] Sun., June 29, 4 p.m. Mrs. Dalloway's, 2904 College Ave., Berkeley, 510-704-8222, MrsDalloways.com.

[illegible] [illegible] Fri., June 27, 7 p.m. [illegible] 480 13th St., Oakland, 415-[illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] Fri., June 27, 7 p.m. [illegible] 6120 LaSalle Ave., Oakland, 510-[illegible]

Mystery Reading Group [illegible] Castro Valley Library, 3600 Norbridge Ave., Castro Valley, 510-667-7900, [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] Sun., June 29, 4 p.m., free. [illegible] 6435 College Ave., Oakland, 510-653-9965, [illegible]

Poetry [illegible] A weekly poetry venue and open mic. Mondays, 7-9 p.m. [illegible] Restaurant, 1585 University Ave., Berkeley, 510-[illegible]

Poetry Writing Workshop [illegible] Wed., July 2, [illegible] Albany Library, 1247 Marin Ave., Albany, 510-526-3720, AClibrary.org.

The [illegible] Thirteen poets will read from [illegible] [illegible] Sun., June 29, 6:30 p.m. [illegible] 2150 Allston Way, Berkeley, 510-[illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] Thu., June 26, 7:30 p.m. Mrs. Dalloway's, 2904 College Ave., Berkeley, 510-704-8222, [illegible]

Writers' Group [illegible] Sat., June 28, 2-4 p.m., Sat., July 5, 6-7:30 p.m., Sat., July 26, 2-4 p.m., Sat., Aug. 9, 2-4 p.m., Mon., Aug. 28, 6:30 p.m. Hayward Public Library, 835 C St., Hayward, 510-293-8685, Library.Hayward-CA.gov.

PUBLIC INTEREST

Citizenship Fair and [illegible] Workshop [illegible] Sat., June 28, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., free. Hayward City Hall [illegible], 777 B St., Hayward, 510-583-4000.

Food Not Bombs Oakland Meeting [illegible] Food Not Bombs meals. First Wednesday of every month, 7:30 p.m., free. Long Haul, 3124 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-540-0751, [illegible]

La Peña's [illegible] Meeting [illegible] Mon., June 30, 8 p.m. [illegible] La Peña Cultural Center, 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-849-2568, LaPena.org.

Lawyers in the Library [illegible] First Tuesday of every month, 6-8 p.m., free. Oakland Public Library, Rockridge Branch, 5366 College Ave., Oakland, 510-597-5017, [illegible]

Money and Politics in Alameda: Time for Change? [illegible] League of Women Voters of Alameda. [illegible] Thu., June 26, 7-9 p.m. [illegible] Harbor Bay Isle, 3195 Mecartney Rd., Alameda.

Peralta Community College [illegible] [illegible] Tue., July 1, [illegible] a.m.-noon. [illegible] 331 E. 8th St., Oakland.

Toastmasters International [illegible] Berkeley [illegible] and Oakland public speakers. Tuesdays, 7:30-8:30 p.m., [illegible] Berkeley.

Toastmasters International [illegible] Warehouse [illegible] nonprofit educational organization that teaches public speaking and leadership skills through a worldwide network of meeting locations. Tuesdays, 8 a.m., [illegible] 480 26th St., Oakland, 510-[illegible]

PICKS

Plastic-Free July Workshop

Nicole Preston

In 2007, while she was recovering from a surgery, bored, and eager to read anything, Beth Terry happened upon an article that would change her life forever. The article, published in *Men's Health*, detailed the widespread, and deeply troubling, effects of plastic consumption on our oceans and wildlife, and included a horrifying photo of a dead seabird, its stomach cut open to reveal a chilling array of bottle caps, lids, packaging, and other plastic detritus. Right then and there, Terry made a decision: She'd go plastic-free, or at least as close to it as possible. Nearly seven years and one book (*Plastic-Free: How I Kicked the Plastic Habit and How You Can Too*) later, the longtime Oaklander uses about [illegible] of the plastic that the average American does — and works tirelessly to get others to do the same. Even, as it happens, if it's just for one month a year. To that end, the Ecology Center (2530 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley) will be hosting Terry this week as part of a workshop that will encourage and empower people to pledge to give up single-use plastic for the month of July. In it, Terry will tell her story, screen the new documentary *Plastic Paradise*, and offer advice and inspiration. So bring a pen — just not, you know, a Bic. — *Ellen Cushing*

Thursday, June 26, 7 p.m., free, EcologyCenter.org

SPOKEN WORD

The Berkeley [illegible] [illegible] Wednesdays, 8 p.m., $7. Starry Plough, 3101 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-841-2082, TheStarryPlough.com.

[illegible] [illegible] share their own stories to be read [illegible] Fri., June 27, 7:30-9 p.m., free. [illegible] 3301 Adeline St., Berkeley, 510-[illegible]

[illegible] Thursdays Open mic poetry [illegible] Thursdays, 8:30 p.m. [illegible] 2277 International Blvd., Oakland, 510-536-4629, [illegible]

Saturday Night Special: East Bay Open Mic [illegible] monthly open mic [illegible] Last Saturday of every month, 8-9 p.m. [illegible] 3218 [illegible] St., Berkeley, 510-[illegible]

Youth Open Mic [illegible] [illegible] youth open mics each month. Every [illegible] Sunday, 4-7 p.m. Starry Plough, 3101 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 510-841-2082, TheStarryPlough.com.

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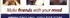

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The meatball sandwich comes in a shirt-stainingly saucy package

Josh Fedorwald

HOW THE EAST COAST (SAUSAGE) ROLLS

Modigliani Cafe brings Italian-American sandwich culture to Oakland's Grand Lake neighborhood.

By Luke Tsai

Folks who live in the Grand Lake neighborhood must be thrilled about how their food fortunes have turned, with several legitimately great options cropping up in the past year or two.

The latest restaurant to join the area's food revival is humble in appearance. Located two doors down from the Grand Lake Theater, the Modigliani Cafe is just a tiny slip of a sandwich shop, with stools for maybe twelve diners at two bar counters and a decidedly unsexy commercial kitchen that takes up half the space. It's a cash-only, predominantly takeout kind of place.

As befits the shop's name, the mustard-yellow walls are lined with the odd, angular portraits of Italian painter Amadeo Modigliani, who is owner Gerry Mogg's favorite artist — someone he associates with quality and uniqueness, which is what Mogg says he would like to achieve at the restaurant. And by and large, he's done just that. Mogg and his chef, Daveed Cruz, have created a menu of unpretentious, East Coast-inflected Italian American cooking — six sandwiches (plus a daily special or two), two salads, and a few milkshakes. The main attraction is the sausage roll, a pizza-sandwich hybrid with roots in the Youngstown, Ohio area, where Mogg is from — not quite the East Coast, but east by Ohio standards, at least. In Youngstown, I'm told, every deli, convenience store, and pizzeria sells pepperoni rolls — calzone-like dough pockets that are stuffed with cheese and pepperoni. In Modigliani's version, they're filled with bulk sausage.

Mogg, a sausage maker by training, makes a classic Italian pork-shoulder sausage, layers the meat with mozzarella cheese on top of thin New York-style pizza dough, and then rolls everything up tightly before baking. The result — a bargain at just $6.50 — is vaguely burrito-like in appearance and offers the flavors and the pleasures of a next-level Hot Pocket: fennel seed-studded pork; oozy cheese; and paper-thin dough that's both toothsome and surprisingly delicate. On the side, you get a little tub of brightly acidic pickled green-pepper slices (for crunching) and another of Mogg's East Coast-style house-made tomato sauce (for dipping).

Indeed, the excellent tomato sauce — rich, hearty and slightly sweet ("like my Nana made it," Mogg said) — is the foundation for the cafe's best sandwiches. My other favorite was the meatball sandwich, which came loaded with basil-flecked, pecorino-cheese-infused, pink-centered meatballs that had a great, light-but-not-insubstantial texture. A Semifreddi's roll, a healthy drizzle of red sauce, and a layer of melted mozzarella completed the shirt-stainingly saucy package — a "three-napkin meatball sandwich, maybe four," as Mogg put it. For the price, you won't find another meatball sandwich in the East Bay that's as good.

The open-face eggplant parmesan sandwich, which Cruz served as a special one day, was also delicious — perhaps the best I've had on the West Coast: eggplant (long slices cooked soft and sweet), tomato sauce, and melted cheese melding together in perfect harmony.

The other sandwiches on the regular menu, all variations of panini, were perfectly fine but didn't quite live up to the aforementioned red sauce-laden delights. The steak panini featured thin slices of roast beef, cheddar, pickled peppers, and a hint of horseradish, but I would have liked a little more kick. And Modigliani's version of a Cuban sandwich (roasted pork, ham, Swiss cheese, pickles, and mustard) was just okay — too much mustard, and the pork too lean and dry.

The best sandwich was the vegetarian version. Staying true to the restaurant's Italian-American red-sauce roots, it was piled high with eggplant, zucchini, roasted red bell peppers, tomato sauce, and mozzarella. A generous slathering of garlicky house-made pesto sauce put it over the top.

Even the salads were better than what you'd expect from your typical hole-in-the-wall sandwich shop. A cucumber salad came studded with crunchy candied pecans, shaved fennel, and slivers of fresh basil. The dressing, made with white balsamic vinegar, was mellow and sweet without being cloying. The tomato and tri-pepper salad featured generous chunks of feta cheese and a bracingly refreshing balsamic vinaigrette.

If you're feeling decadent, wash your sandwich down with one of the cafe's old-fashioned milkshakes, which, despite being made with run-of-the-mill ice cream, were satisfying in a diner-y kind of way. The strawberry shake — made with fresh strawberry sauce — tasted just the way strawberry ice cream ought to taste. The off-menu mocha shake, which had a splash of espresso and little flecks of chocolate, was even better.

A meatball sandwich and a milkshake is the kind of gut-busting lunch I'd only recommend if you have time to take a nap afterward. Which is to say I highly recommend it.

The tradeoff with a tiny bootstrap operation like this, however, is that it lacks the amenities of a typical sit-down restaurant. You might need to wait a few minutes before anyone takes your order, and when the line gets long — right before a movie is about to start, for instance — the service can get downright hectic. For takeout orders, a separate container for salad dressing would help keep it from all sloshing out en route.

Those minor quibbles notwithstanding, Modigliani Cafe gives folks another great dining option in the Grand Lake neighborhood. Until recently, the space had been occupied by a dimly lit coffee shop perhaps best known for the fact that moviegoers were allowed to bring its char-grilled sausages into the Grand Lake Theater.

Sadly, Mogg said he hasn't worked out a similar arrangement. Now, I would never advise you to sneak outside food into a private business establishment, but if you were the kind of scofflaw who would do such a thing, one of these sausage rolls would probably make for the best movie theater snack ever. Exercise your own conscience. ●

Luke.Tsai@EastBayExpress.com

Modigliani Cafe
3208-3210 Grand Ave., Oakland
510-986-1590
Hours: Sun.-Thu. 11 a.m.-8 p.m., Fri.-Sat. 11 a.m.-10 p.m.
Reservations not accepted
Cash only

Sample Menu

Sausage Roll	$6.50
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WHAT THE FORK

WHERE MODERN GASTRONOMY AND PALEO DINING MEET

Plus: Fivetenburger owner Roland Robles opens Handlebar in Berkeley

By Luke Tsai

Remember those dark days when simply having a gluten-free-friendly restaurant was considered a major breakthrough? Yvonne Barroeta and Bobby Chang want to take healthy eating and catering to those with dietary restrictions to the next level. To that end, Mission Heirloom, their new Berkeley-based food business, promises not only to be gluten-free, but also grain- and soy-free — with a little bit of molecular gastronomy mixed in for good measure.

This fall, Barroeta and Chang will open Mission Heirloom Garden Cafe in North Berkeley at 2085 Vine Street, the former home of the Vegi Food Chinese vegetarian restaurant.

The cafe will be loosely aligned with the Paleolithic diet, whose premise is that humans haven't evolved to properly digest any foods that our Paleolithic ancestors didn't eat — namely grains and legumes. (Barroeta and Chang credit the diet for curing a variety of health problems since they adopted it five years ago.) A quick scan of the company's website and Facebook page reveals that many of the foods the founders consider to be "above board" are fairly standard among sustainable-food types. Everything they serve is organic and GMO-free, and the company's head-to-tail approach to meat is designed to maximize nutrition and minimize waste.

Other stipulations are more controversial — for instance, the idea that cooking with olive oil is inherently dangerous or that umami, the so-called "fifth taste," so beloved by modern chefs, should be avoided as much as possible. And, of course, the merits of the paleo diet itself are the subject of some debate in the medical community.

Barroeta said she's never considered herself much of a foodie, so she and Chang hired Christian Phernetton, a chef with a background in molecular gastronomy. According to Barroeta, there's a spirit of playfulness and scientific rigor to the Mission Heirloom kitchen. He uses beets and carrots to simulate the flavor of tomatoes, which the diet forbids, and serves lamb meatballs with romanesco that's prepared to resemble a grain-free tabouleh. He makes precise calculations to determine the exact proportion of liver that ought to be added to a meatball to achieve the ideal amino acid levels. And the food is undeniably gorgeous, each plate a kaleidoscope's view of vivid colors.

The cafe itself won't have much cooking equipment beyond a hot plate, so the food will be prepped and cooked at a commissary kitchen in West Berkeley, with dish components stored in individual jars. The idea, Barroeta said, is to allow diners to customize their meal according to their individual food sensitivities.

Mission Heirloom will be a casual order-at-the-counter type of place, with most of the seating located in a 2,000-square-foot outdoor garden. In addition to the weekly selection of gluten-free and grain-free dishes, the cafe will also serve Intelligentsia coffee and offer an option for "bulletproof coffee," the latest beverage fad among paleo practitioners and CrossFit zealots: brewed coffee that gets blended with grass-fed butter until it's thick and frothy — "like the creamiest latte ever," Barroeta said.

Construction on the space is underway and Barroeta said she's hoping the cafe will open by the first week of September. In the meantime, Mission Heirloom is taking a limited number of online orders for pickup Tuesday through Friday at its West Berkeley kitchen commissary.

Handlebar Opens

Burger enthusiasts, beer lovers, and connoisseurs of whimsical facial hair have a new go-to spot in West Berkeley: Handlebar (984 University Ave.), a new restaurant and bar from the Fivetenburger food-truck entrepreneur (and mustache wearer) Roland Robles, quietly opened for business last week.

The project is a collaboration between Robles and Jennifer Seidman, who owns nearby Acme Bar (2115 San Pablo Ave.). The concept simply put is tasty American comfort food, nothing too elaborate or fancy, Robles said in a phone interview earlier this week. "This is not a gastropub," he said. "I'm not trying to make anything new; I'm not trying to shake anything up."

Robles stressed that Handlebar is a brand-new restaurant, not simply a brick-and-mortar facsimile of his Fivetenburger trucks (which will continue to operate, in case you were worried). So while there is a burger on the menu (for $14, with a side of tater tots), Robles said it's completely different from the one he serves via his trucks — different bun, different grind, different meat supplier.

Other menu items include mac 'n' cheese, beef cheek tacos, and a mixed-greens salad with strawberries. Handlebar is also placing a big emphasis on brunch, which will be served not only on weekends but also all day on Monday for what Robles calls an "industry brunch" — for line cooks and other people in the food-and-wine business who work on the weekends and thus aren't normally able to go to brunch. (Regular folks are, of course, welcome to dine as well.) The restaurant's signature brunch dish is a cross between pigs-in-a-blanket and a corn dog: Robles said he takes a full link-size breakfast sausage, dips it in pancake batter, deep-fries it until it's crispy, and then serves it with a side of maple butter.

Meanwhile, Seidman's bar program is, in Robles' words, all about "sessionable" drinking — low-alcohol cocktails and punches and light beers. The idea is that customers who'd like to throw back several drinks can do so without getting unmanageably drunk.

Current hours are Saturday to Monday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. for brunch, and Tuesday to Friday, 5 to 10 p.m. for dinner. Robles said he hopes to offer dinner service on Saturdays and Sundays as well, perhaps starting as soon as this weekend. ■

This column is culled from our blog of the same name.

Luke.Tsai@EastBayExpress.com

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RESTAURANTS & CAFES

Grand Lake-Area Restaurants

Boot and Shoe Service

3308 Grand Ave., Oakland, 510-763-2668. Inventive, California-style thin-crust pizzas are the focus of Charlie (Pizzaiolo) Hallowell's latest endeavor. Monterey Bay squid, wild nettles, Calabrian peppers and egg, potatoes, and pancetta are among the organic ingredients used to top off the tender, chewy house crust. Appetizers such as fritto misto or house-made burrata show the same quality as their Pizzaiolo cousins. Intriguing wine and cocktail list. The attached Boot and Shoe Café offers gourmet espresso and pour-over coffee from Sightglass, house-baked pastries, and a couple of hot breakfast and brunch specials. $$

Camino

3917 Grand Ave., Oakland, 510-547-5035. Camino looks a lot like heaven to socially and environmentally conscious epicures, while annoying those just looking for roasted chicken and a Coke. That's okay with Chez Panisse alum Russell Moore, whose mission is to use his longtime local-farm connections to bring insanely topnotch produce, seafood, meat, poultry, and grains to wholesome, hearty dishes you won't soon forget. Camino's menu changes daily, with the consistent themes being seasonal high-end ingredients and artful, unique preparations. The eighty-seat room manages to be intimate, thanks to the wood-burning oven and cooking fireplace dominating the cavernous interior. $$$

Caña

530 Lake Park Ave., Oakland, 510-832-1545. Cuban food is all too rare in the Bay Area, and Caña Café does it well, serving up Cuban sandwiches, fried chicken, and empanadas with equal aplomb. But veteran chef Diego Salman has bounced around at high-end bistros restaurants, and at Caña Parlor he's adding foams and sous-vide techniques to the pan-Latin fare. The resulting combination, of the light and airy daytime cafe's authentic Cuban street food, and the nighttime parlor's fancy fusion, is an interesting dichotomy. Both are good, but Salman's traditional street food is more consistently strong. $-$$

Coach Sushi

532 Grand Ave., Oakland, 510-834-7866. Owner Hiro Okuda was a baseball coach in Tokyo, but chances are he wasn't the hardass who kicked dirt at the ump. The smiling Okuda is a sweetie of a host, which is what sets his unassuming sushi joint apart from a gazillion others. Plus at $3.50, the house sake has to be the cheapest buzz in town — your traditional wooden cup never goes empty. Afterwards, if you can still see straight, etch your name on it; the staff will have it ready for you next time you show up. $$

Flavors of India

3270 Lakeshore Ave., Oakland, 510-268-8957. See Berkeley South listing. $$ Neighborhood North Indian with freshness, brio, and tandoori scraps decent enough to serve as all-night alternatives to the mega-burrito. The print dining menu may be the blandest thing about this little place. Opt for spicy, and a dish such as veggie masala or chicken saag can deploy the kind of burn that'll keep your water glass in constant play. The lunch menu is limited, but it's packed with bargains — most solid for a block where a burger costs well over ten bucks. $$

Grand Lake Kitchen

576 Grand Ave., Oakland, 510-922-9582. Located a stone's throw from Lake Merritt, Grand Lake Kitchen defies easy categorization. It isn't a traditional Jewish deli. It isn't one of those places where every single item is made from scratch in-house. Nevertheless, the place fills at least three different niches for a neighborhood that didn't have a great sandwich shop, or a cozy diner, or a posh grocery store carrying obscure sodas and organic baby food. The house-made pickles are great, and the deli case is stocked with seasonal, mostly vegetarian salads. But Grand Lake Kitchen's biggest selling point is its sandwiches: a delicious riff on Italian porchetta; a better-than-solid Cubano; and, best of all, the "Oyako," an open-face egg salad sandwich topped with thin shards of crispy chicken skin. $$

Grand Tavern

3601 Grand Ave., Oakland, 510-444-0044. Organic gastropub fare like mac 'n' cheese and burgers is the focus at this friendly, down-home Oakland hangout. Gluten-free diners will find plenty of options because chef Nate Berry-Stein is gluten-intolerant himself. On the weekends, try the gluten-free doughnuts for dessert. Also featured: a full slate of delicious pre-Prohibition cocktails. $$$

Jong Ga House

372 Grand Ave., Oakland, 510-444-7658. It's impossible not to overeat here. You order one entree and it comes with twelve little dishes filled with pickled vegetables, salads, dried fish, and other delights — and they're all good, too. While the standard grilled meats are fine, let the servers steer you toward more unfamiliar stews, soups, and smoked dishes, especially those containing fish. Vegetarian choices are limited but tasty. $$

Kitchen 388

388 Grand Ave., Oakland, 510-663-3905. At the forefront of Adams Point's new renaissance, Kitchen 388 bears promise to anchor the neighborhood as a welcoming breakfast and lunch spot. Unfortunately, the service and menu can be uneven. The pulled-pork sandwich is excellent, as is the salmon tartine. The signature offering, a house-baked egg tart from pastry chef Alma Toyooka, is well-made but (oddly) served cold. Helmed by accomplished Bay Area chef Joseph Dunbar, Kitchen 388 has the potential to iron out its kinks over time. $

Lin Jia Asian Kitchen

3437 Lakeshore Ave., Oakland, 510-893-8322. Marisa Lam worked in her parents' Chinese takeout restaurant in Hayward for fifteen years, biding her time until she could open her own shop using Mary's chickens, Niman beef, organic produce, and no MSG. Lin Jia is the result, a Chinese restaurant with globetrotting influences from Japan, Korea, Vietnam, and Thailand. Everything is fresh and handsomely prepared, and you won't feel the bloat of cheap takeout, but too-clean Lin Jia sometimes feels lacking in passion. Make sure to order the ethereal wonton soup and the Koo Roo, a deconstructed pork bun. $$

Michel Bistro

3343 Lakeshore Ave., Oakland, 510-836-8737. At this unobtrusive restaurant on Lakeshore Avenue, Marcel Pagnol dialogue graces the wall, the servers speak French effortlessly, and the food tastes very French indeed. But chef Anthony Salguero also draws heavily on the Bay Area's storied Cal-French tradition, making rustic bistro dishes slightly lighter and brighter. Bison tartare, which replaces the traditional raw beef with coarsely chopped bison, is a textural delight — each bite of bison, caper berry, and whole mustard grains "pops," caviar-like, in your mouth. Plump, sweet mussels are served in a tasty, Pernod-infused broth that's brightened by the inclusion of preserved lemon rind. And the lamb burger is alone worth a trip. Other highlights include the affordable, all-French wine program (wherein each wine is available in four serving sizes) and the reliably great weekend brunch menu. $$-$$$

Mijori Sushi

3260 Grand Ave., Oakland, 510-465-8854. The biggest, thickest, butteriest slabs of fish are to be found at Mijori. And just about everyone in Oakland seems to know it. Since sushi chef Jimmy Kim took over the business from his father, he has introduced a host of bombastic, colorful, American-style rolls, but one late

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RECENTLY REVIEWED

AlaMar Kitchen & Bar
100 Grand Ave., Oakland, 510-907-7555, AlaMarOakland.com. This Uptown seafood spot isn't an Asian-Cajun joint, even though the restaurant's specialty — the seafood boil — tends to be the domain of Vietnamese-American restaurateurs. But chef Nelson German thought he could improve upon the genre. Instead of using traditional Cajun seasoning, he uses compound butters made with spices like saffron and smoked paprika. Instead of boiling the shellfish, in many cases German chars them on the grill before tossing them with sauce in a sauté pan. In dishes such as AlaMar's take on peel 'n' eat shrimp, the combination of ingredients — of well-spiced Romesco butter, garlic, and the umami-laden funk of the juices you can suck out of the shrimp heads — is irresistible. Other highlights: raw oysters topped with cilantro-ginger "caviar" and a recipe for braised oxtails the chef learned from his Dominican mother. The plastic bib is strictly optional. $$$

Doukkala
4905 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 510-653-8691, DoukkalaRestaurant.com. This "California Moroccan" restaurant was long the home of Tanjia, which served decent, if unexciting, Moroccan food. Now the restaurant has reinvented itself, enlisting a French chef (Eric Lanvert) who has modernized the menu, with a focus on local ingredients. Some dishes are brighter-tasting updates on Moroccan standards like duck tagine and pastilla (a meat pie stuffed, in this case, with quail). Others only have a slight North African accent — a scattering of Berber spice mix around the edges of a dainty beet salad, for instance. Ultimately, though, the best dishes were the ones that tasted the most French. (Funny how that happens when you have a French chef.) Don't miss the seared sea scallops, served over a rich Jerusalem-artichoke velouté, or, even better, the escargot: snails braised in an aromatic "Marrakech-style" broth but finished the French way — stuffed with a ton of butter, then baked until tender. $$$

Dragon Gate Bar and Grill
500 Broadway, Oakland, 510-922-8052, DragonGateLounge.com. This under-the-radar spot is the kind of bar where there's a cocktail called "The Drunken Master" and the most popular feature is the private karaoke rooms in back, where Chinese-speaking twentysomethings order $100 bottle service and croon old David Tao ballads. At a place like this, you don't expect much from the food. And yet: Dragon Gate serves some of the best Taiwanese dishes in the East Bay. The noodles alone are worth the trip — from an excellent, spicy version of beef noodle soup (Taiwan's national dish) to the intriguingly named "idiot noodles," which come topped with a sweet braised-pork sauce. There's a section of the menu devoted to Taiwanese street foods (e.g., grilled sausages served with slices of raw garlic) and a surprisingly vast selection of traditional home-style dishes. Try the simple dried-radish omelet or the sizzling, sesame-oil-scented "three cup sauce" chicken. $$

Michel Bistro
3343 Lakeshore Ave., Oakland, 510-836-8737 or MichelBistro.com. At this unobtrusive restaurant on Lakeshore Avenue, Marcel Pagnol dialogue graces the wall, the servers speak French effortlessly, and the food tastes very French indeed. But chef Anthony Salguero also draws heavily on the Bay Area's storied Cal-French tradition, making rustic bistro dishes slightly lighter and brighter. Bison tartare, which replaces the traditional raw beef with coarsely chopped bison, is a textural delight — each bite of bison, caper berry, and whole mustard grains "pops," caviar-like, in your mouth. Plump, sweet mussels are served in a tasty Pernod-infused broth that's brightened by the inclusion of preserved lemon rind. And the lamb burger is alone worth a trip. Other highlights include the affordable all-French wine program (wherein each wine is available in four serving sizes) and the reliably great weekend brunch menu. $$-$$$

of his uni or hamachi nigiri will show you that his skills — and his tastes — are steeped in classic Japanese technique. $$

Penrose
3311 Grand Ave., Oakland, 510-444-1045. Charlie Hallowell's new restaurant oozes with money and Old World charm — from the molded-plastic Eames dining chairs to the eye-catching Parisian-inspired scalloped glass awning that juts out over the open kitchen. The place is loud, buzzy, and completely over the top. The daily-changing menu skews heavily toward small plates with North African and Middle Eastern flavor profiles — lots of preserved lemon, yogurt, and cilantro. Some dishes, like grilled polenta with braised pork ragu and chermoula — a North African take on Mexican pozole — have a rollicking, improvised quality. Mostly, though, high-quality ingredients are just allowed to speak for themselves, as in a plate of sweet roasted carrots or a perfectly executed grilled skirt steak with brightly acidic chimichurri sauce. If it's available, don't miss out on the bright red, coarsely hand-chopped lamb tartare, which is the closest thing Penrose has to a marquee dish. $$$

Sidebar
542 Grand Ave., Oakland, 510-452-9500. In the 1990s, married partners Barbara Mulas and Mark Drazek defined the sophisticated neighborhood eatery at Berkeley's ZAX Tavern, whose fans sank into deep depression when the place closed in 2007. Many of the tavern's faves have turned up at Sidebar, the duo's cool California brasserie at the edge of Grand Lake. With its chill vibe, bar menu designed by Johnny Raglin of SF's Absinthe, and prices calibrated to the new Depression, Sidebar succeeds at defining the neighborhood restaurant for the post-Millennium. Not every dish works, but the kitchen has a talent for deeply satisfying comfort foods like gooey panini and crab-spiked deviled eggs. $$-$$$

The Star
3425 Grand Ave., Oakland, 510-843-7827. This spinoff from Jon Gold, Little Star Pizza co-founder and pizza-recipe developer-in-chief, adds a full bar and sandwiches to the mini-chain's well-established formula. Really, though, the changes are slight. Though the thin-crust pizzas aren't half-bad, The Star's "star," so to speak, is still its signature Chicago-style deep-dish pizza. Simply put, these are in a class of their own — because of the addition of cornmeal to the dough, which yields a crumbly, wonderfully textured crust; because of the sauce, which is chunky and just tart enough; and because of the layers of stretchy high-quality mozzarella. Solo diners will be hard pressed to pass up on the $9 personal pizza, but the sandwiches are quite good as well, all served on proper East Coast-style soft French rolls with a side of house-made giardiniera. Other notable menu items include the garlic bread (a "deconstructed" version, with whole roasted garlic cloves for spreading) and a selection of enjoyably unfussy salads. $$ ●

Price Key
Price codes assume diners will order a main course and beverage, share appetizers and desserts, and tip adequately: $ — up to $10 per person; $$ — $10-$25; $$$ — $25-$50; $$$$ — more than $50.

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Eats, Drinks & Books Weekly [illegible] party featuring live music, an [illegible] beer garden [illegible] and international [illegible] Center St. [illegible] Center St. and [illegible] Sundays, 11-6 p.m. [illegible] through June 29. [illegible]

[illegible] Wine Tasting A [illegible] wine tasting with all proceeds benefiting local schools. Thursdays, 5-7 p.m. Saturdays, 2-6 p.m., Fridays, 5-7:30 p.m. $5 per flight. [illegible] Wines, [illegible] La Salle Ave. [illegible] 510-[illegible], [illegible].com.

Get Stuffed Food Market Featuring food trucks, tents, carts, and other [illegible] including [illegible] BBQ, Peter's Kettle Corn, Mustache Mike's (Italian ices), Kuu Kuu Corner (Hawaiian-Filipino comfort foods), and [illegible] Bean Truck (coffee and dog treats). Saturdays, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. free. College of Alameda, 555 Atlantic Ave., Alameda. 510-522-7221, Alameda.Peralta.edu.

Mo Salsa a Pork [illegible] La Peña [illegible] [illegible] and music. Fri. June 27, 8-11 p.m. $10. La Peña Cultural Center, 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 510-849-2568, LaPena.org.

[illegible] Beer and Wine Celebration Addition to the 28th Fine Arts Festival with tastings from seasonal craft beer and [illegible] wineries and [illegible]. Sat. June 28, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. free. CVS Pharmacy, 2000 Mountain Blvd., Oakland. 510-339-[illegible].

Off the Grid: [illegible] food shops, drinks for sale, music, kids' [illegible] and Tuesdays, [illegible] admission Fridays, 5-9 p.m. free. [illegible] of California, 1000 Oak St., Oakland. 510-318-8400, MuseumCA.org.

Off the Grid: North Berkeley Sundays, ten or more food trucks every week. Sundays, 5-9 p.m. North Berkeley BART, 1750 Sacramento St., Berkeley. Bart.gov/stations/nbrk.

Wine [illegible] Broadway Featuring food from [illegible] including [illegible] Berkeley, [illegible] of Flour, [illegible], [illegible] Smorrebrod, Nancy's Heart and Soul, [illegible], [illegible] and more. Plus, [illegible], live music and movies at dusk. Fridays, 5:30-9:30 p.m. [illegible] through Oct. 31. Studio and Art [illegible], 360 45th St., Oakland. 510-[illegible], [illegible].net.

The Supper Club [illegible] to [illegible], [illegible] with opportunity to [illegible] [illegible] through [illegible] Thu., June 26, 6:30 p.m. $[illegible]. [illegible] Space & [illegible] Center, [illegible] Blvd., Oakland. 510-350-7375, [illegible].org.

[illegible] Berkeley Wines Tasting Try five tastes for $5 at [illegible] the Vine St. and [illegible] Ave. [illegible] Check Facebook.

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] in the City for details on what [illegible] will be poured that day. Thursdays, 5-7 p.m. $5. [illegible], Berkeley, 2113 Vine St., Berkeley. 510-665-[illegible].

Wine & Food [illegible] Event Featuring four [illegible] paired with food and wines. Thu. June 26, 7:30 p.m. $35-$50. Livermore [illegible] Library, 1188 S. Livermore Ave., Livermore. 925-373-5500.

FARMERS' MARKETS

Alameda Farmers' Market With locally grown fruits and vegetables, plus family [illegible]. Tuesdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Saturdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., free, PCFMA.com. Alameda Farmers' Market, Haight Ave. at Webster St., Alameda.

[illegible] Farm Fresh Choice, [illegible] Produce [illegible] Farm Fresh Choice runs produce stands in limited-resource neighborhoods. Tuesdays, 3:30-6:30 p.m., free. 510-548-2220, EcologyCenter.org, Bay Area Hispano Community Advancement, 1718 Eighth St., Berkeley. 510-525-1463, [illegible].

Freedom Farmers' Market With a food and produce from California's African American and local urban farmers, as well as baked goods from local bakers. Saturdays, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Telegraph Ministry Center, 5316 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley. 510-858-4467, www.telegraph-center.com/.

Fruitvale Farmers' Market With locally grown and [illegible] fruit, [illegible] bread products, and more produce. WIC and EBT. Sundays, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., and 510-[illegible]. Fruitvale BART Station, 3401 East 12th St., Oakland.

Grand Lake Farmers' Market The weekly market hosts more than 70 produce, prepared foods, and arts and crafts vendors. Saturdays, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., free. 510-[illegible]. SplashPad.org/farmersmkt.html. Splash Pad Park, Grand Ave. and Lake Park Ave., Oakland. 510-238-7275, www2.oaklandnet.com/Government/o/opr/o/Parks/index.htm.

Hayward City Hall Farmers' Market A farmers' market [illegible] locally grown and [illegible] foods from more [illegible] farmers and produce food purveyors. Saturdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., free. 800-897-3276, AgriculturalInstitute.org. Hayward City Hall, 777 B St., Hayward. 510-583-4000, ci.Hayward.Ca.Us.

Kaiser Permanente Oakland Farmers' Market With [illegible] selling fresh, all-organic fruits and vegetables. Fridays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., free, PCFMA.com. Kaiser Oakland, 3600 Broadway St., Oakland.

Kensington Farmers' Market With a nursery, fresh flowers, an organic [illegible] and [illegible], local wild fish, fruits and vegetables, [illegible] cheese, [illegible] cheese, fresh pasta, and seasonal Sundays. The market also hosts live music and entertainment. Sundays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. free. 510-847-6521, KensingtonFarmers-Market.org. Colusa Circle at the Colusa Circle, Kensington.

Montclair Village Farmers' Market Featuring organic produce and Berkeley foods. Free parking in village garage at the top of La Salle Avenue. Sundays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., free. [illegible].org/farmers market.html. Downtown Montclair Village, LaSalle and Moraga Aves., Oakland.

North Berkeley Farmers' Market With breads, specialty foods, all-organic produce, and more for sale, along with benefit programs and events. WIC and EBT accepted. Thursdays, 3-7 p.m., free, 510-548-3333, EcologyCenter.org. Shattuck Ave. and Rose St., Berkeley.

[illegible] Oakland Children's Hospital Farmers' Market EBT and WIC May Tuesdays, 3-7 p.m., free. 800-[illegible]. [illegible].org. Children's Hospital & Research Center Oakland, 747 52nd St., Oakland.

[illegible] Oakland [illegible] and Local [illegible] Market With seasonal organic produce from Bay Area farms and five [illegible] Saturdays, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., and [illegible].org, Oakland [illegible] Farmers' Market, 5715 Market St., Oakland.

Old Oakland Farmers' Market Farmers [illegible] produce, breads, oils and other organic foods, along with plenty of samples. Fridays, 8 a.m.-2 p.m., free. Old Oakland Farmers' Market, 9th St. between Broadway and Clay St. [illegible].org/markets/oldoakland.

Organic Produce [illegible] With fresh organic fruits and vegetables. EBT [illegible] as cash and credit cards. Tuesdays, Thursdays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Hayward Food Stamp Office, 24100 Amador St., Hayward.

Pacific Coast Jack London Square Farmers' Market With seasonal [illegible] greens, nuts, freshly [illegible] foods, pastries, cut flowers, [illegible], yoga classes, live music, and arts and crafts for kids. Sundays, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., free, PCFMA.com. Jack London Square, Broadway and Water St., Oakland.

Richmond Farmers' Market With fresh, locally grown fruit, live flowers, [illegible], eggs, and other produce. WIC and SNAP. Tuesdays, Fridays, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., free, [illegible]FarmersMarket.org. Richmond Farmers' Market, 24th St. and Barrett Ave., Richmond.

Saturday Berkeley Farmers' Market With fresh and organic produce, breads, prepared foods and more for sale, plus special programs and events. Saturdays, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., free, 510-548-3333, EcologyCenter.org. Martin Luther King Jr. Civic Center Park, 2151 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Berkeley. 510-981-5150, CI.Berkeley.ca.us.

South Berkeley Farmers' Market With fresh produce and other food for sale. Tuesdays, 2-6:30 p.m. South Berkeley Farmers' Market, Adeline and 63rd sts., Berkeley. 510-548-3333, EcologyCenter.org.

Temescal Farmers' Market California [illegible] offer seasonal produce, dried fruits and nuts, fresh ranch [illegible], baked goods, locally caught fish, fresh cut flowers, and more. Sundays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., free. 800-746-7355, DMV parking lot, 5300 Claremont Ave., Oakland.

[illegible] South Berkeley Farmers' Market Fresh and organic [illegible] foods, specialty foods, and more for sale, plus special programs and events. Tuesdays, 2-7 p.m., free. 510-548-3333, EcologyCenter.org. Tuesday [illegible] Farmers' Market, 63rd and Adeline [illegible] produce. 510-548-3333, EcologyCenter.org. ●

PICK

Cocktail-Making Class

Who said mixology is only for professionals? At a monthly cocktail-making class at Assemble (1414 Harbour Way South, Richmond), you, too, can learn the fine art of knowing how much tequila is too much and, more to the point, how to mix a tasty, well-balanced adult beverage. This month, the $50 price of admission pays for three summery drinks (a Riesling-based wine cocktail, a fruity mezcal-and-tequila number, and a dessert cocktail made with sparkling rosé), each one shaken or stirred by your own hand. To make sure

Assemble

you're not drinking on an empty stomach, Assemble's kitchen team will serve up small bites to go with each cocktail, a mini grilled-cheese sandwich, shrimp ceviche, and strawberry shortcake. Afterward, participants are welcome to stay for dinner or — why not? — another drink or two while enjoying the great waterfront sunset view. — *Luke Tsai*

Friday June 27, 6:30-8:30 p.m., $50. Call 510-215-6025 to reserve a spot.

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WAR AND POLITICS

Who are you gonna believe, the bosses (*Citizen Koch*) or the employees (*Korengal*)?

By Kelly Vance

Citizen Koch shows how labor unions are one of the targets of the ultra-conservative Koch brothers.

Citizen Koch may not be the most smoothly organized documentary of the year but it certainly fires a lot of arrows at its target: the woeful effect of huge amounts of money on the American political system. The bogeymen are David and Charles Koch — ultra-conservative energy and chemical moguls from Kansas with an estimated $72 billion combined net worth — and like-minded rightwing members of the fabled One Percent.

Their objectives could scarcely be made any plainer: to smash labor unions; to eliminate pesky government regulations; to reduce taxes on corporations; to disenfranchise low-income and minority voters by passing "voter ID" laws and other barriers; to support climate-change deniers; to demonize Democrats, organized labor, and various other "enemies"; and to generally shred the Constitution at the same time they pretend to worship it. The Kochs and fellow hard-right big-money conservatives, operating behind a network of front groups including Americans for Prosperity, aim to accomplish all that by, among other methods, saturation advertising against vulnerable foes. Those "other methods" share at least two commonalities: They all involve large amounts of money, and they're kept as secret as possible.

Carl Deal and Tia Lessin's doc illustrates the culture clash by zeroing in on Wisconsin during the run-up to the 2012 presidential election. The Tea Party (remember them?) and Republican pit bulls like Sarah Palin (remember her?) and Wisconsin's newly elected governor Scott Walker staged an uprising against public-employee unions and their favorite adversary, Barack Obama, with racist demagoguery and waves of attack ads. They were encouraged by the Supreme Court's 2010 *Citizens United v. FEC* ruling, which had opened the floodgates of private money to candidates ready to court the billionaires' support. The assault was semi-successful. Obama won, but labor and numerous incumbents took it on the chin. "It was a huge power grab by corporate America ... and sadly the Supreme Court was a tool for their interests, instead of being the guardian of our Constitution," laments one of the Kochs' victims, former US Senator Russ Feingold.

Citizen Koch

Written and directed by Carl Deal and Tia Lessin. Opens Friday.

Korengal

Directed by Sebastian Junger. Opens Friday.

In order to make its point, *Citizen Koch* detours from an analysis of the Koch brothers' machinations to a ground-level view of grumpy Wisconsin voters who helped turn their state upside down. As has been the case since the 1960s, the mystery is how so many middle- and working-class people could be persuaded to vote against their own interests by watching TV commercials. Filmmakers Deal and Lessin — who made the electrifying Hurricane Katrina doc *Trouble the Water* and have produced films with Michael Moore — talk to a motorcycle shop owner and his wife, both military veterans; a female farmer; and an ex-GI state prison guard, all of them at first enchanted by and then disgusted with, the Tea Party and the way their admittedly unsophisticated political frustrations (the motorcycle guy had never before voted in his life) were manipulated. We also tag along with 2012's most obscure presidential candidate, former Louisiana governor and campaign finance reform advocate Charles "Buddy" Roemer, who favors public funding of elections. The documentary dissipates some of its power with those digressions, but the point gets made: In a democracy even the richest individual has only one vote, the same as the poorest.

Running in tandem with the detective-style political investigation in the film is an off-screen story. *Citizen Koch* premiered at the 2013 Sundance Film Festival. According to reporter Jane Mayer's piece, "A Word from Our Sponsor," in the May 27, 2013 issue of *The New Yorker*, the film became embroiled in a squabble involving Deal, Lessin, and the movie's other producers; San Francisco's Independent Television Service (ITVS), which distributes films to public television; and New York's public-TV outlet, WNET. At issue was *Citizen Koch*'s damning portrayal of the Koch brothers and the film's upcoming appearance on the station's schedule — a situation aggravated by the fact that David Koch serves on the board of WNET and donates to the station. Apparently no one, other than the filmmakers, wanted to piss off the moneyman for fear of having their funding eliminated. But it's in theaters now and the Kochs can't do anything about it.

"Money is a weapon," says Buddy Roemer. He's got a point there. Common Cause and its allies are leading a push for a constitutional amendment to overturn the Supreme Court's *Citizens United* decision. Concurrently, the Move to Amend coalition is working to pass local and state resolutions in support of the 28th Amendment, which states that corporations are not people and money is not protected speech. You can find details on those and other political actions at CitizenKoch.com.

Journalist-filmmakers Sebastian Junger (*The Perfect Storm*) and Tim Hetherington made the documentary *Restrepo* in 2010 to show American audiences what life and death were like for a detachment of US Army troops at an outpost in the Korengal Valley in Eastern Afghanistan, near the Pakistan border. Now Junger has made what amounts to the "sequel," *Korengal*.

Director Junger and fellow cameraman Hetherington essentially embed themselves with the soldiers under the command of Capt. Dan Kearney, whose job is an inversion of the "boredom punctuated by terror" cliché about combat: firefights every day, broken up by the mandatory, sardonic, political sit-downs with Afghan village elders. We can plainly see that the task of foreign soldiers trying to suppress a native insurgency is tremendously difficult, if not hopeless, but that doesn't stop Kearney's men from growing as characters as the film goes on. "Imagine living two feet from someone for months at a time and not being able to get away," explains one soldier. In candid scenes, some of them seem as if they're going crazy on camera, which would explain guys arguing with each other for hours over who would win in a fight, George Clooney or Fabio.

That only makes them more human. Whatever our opinion of the wars our country has been fighting in the Middle East and Central Asia, films like *Restrepo* and *Korengal* remind us that Americans not very different than ourselves took the military as a job of work, and the life-or-death situations of combat have bonded them together more strongly than anything they've ever known. Call it human nature. These men are unforgettable. ●

[illegible]@EastBayExpress.com

MOVIES & THEATERS

To learn where a movie is playing, go to EastBayExpress.com or scan the QR code. Capsule reviews are written by Kelly Vance (K.V.). For a schedule of repertory films, see One-Night Stands at the end of these listings. Please send info fourteen days before event date to Zainab.Mohammed@EastBayExpress.com.

OPENING

Begin Again When singer-songwriter Gretta (Keira Knightley), who has just been jilted by her songwriting partner Dave, is discovered by disgraced music business executive Dan (Mark Ruffalo) while performing in a club in New York, the [illegible] between the two. (104 min.)

Bicycling with Molière When TV actor Gauthier Valence (Lambert Wilson) attempts to convince Serge Tanneur (Fabrice Luchini) to collaborate on a production of Molière's play *The Misanthrope*, the two [illegible] end up arguing over the interpretation. (104 min.)

Citizen Koch See this week's review (86 min.)

Korengal See this week's review (84 min.)

Radio Free Albemuth [illegible] story about a pop-music executive named Nick (Jonathan Scott) [illegible] Phil (Shea Whigham) [illegible] "Phil" is a stand-in for author Philip K. Dick, and Nick and Phil's government surveillance scenario has a 1960s counter-cultural tinge to it. The screenplay by director John Alan Simon [illegible] from Dick's 1976 novel. Costarring [illegible] Winnick, Alanis Morissette, and Scott Wilson (111 min.). (K.V.)

Tammy After Tammy (Melissa McCarthy), a burger-joint waitress, loses the job and finds her husband in a compromising position with their neighbor and hits the road with her zealous, hard-drinking grandmother Pearl (Susan Sarandon). (97 min.)

Third Person [illegible] Paul Haggis [illegible] Liam Neeson [illegible] Mila Kunis, Olivia Wilde, Adrien Brody, James Franco, Moran Atias [illegible] (137 min.). (K.V.)

Transformers: Age of Extinction A new group of humans, led by Cade Yeager (Mark Wahlberg), helps Optimus Prime (Peter Cullen) and the Autobots rise up to meet their most fearsome challenge yet [illegible] (165 min.)

Violette An exquisite character study for the literary-minded. [illegible] writer Simone de Beauvoir (Sandrine Kiberlain) [illegible] Writer-director Martin Provost (*Séraphine*) [illegible] (139 min.). (K.V.)

ONGOING

22 Jump Street An investigation at a local college brings big changes for undercover officers Jenko (Channing Tatum) and Schmidt (Jonah Hill). (112 min.)

Belle [illegible] Amma Asante and screenwriter Misan Sagay [illegible] in 18th-century England [illegible] Dido Elizabeth Belle, English actress Gugu Mbatha-Raw [illegible] Tom Wilkinson [illegible]

Showtimes Online

Movie showtimes and online ticket-buying at EastBayExpress.com, or by scanning the code below.

M&T

Gadon as Rich's "[illegible]" [illegible], and Sam [illegible] as the [illegible] of the [illegible]. It's the [illegible] [illegible] effort by [illegible] and [illegible] (108 min.) (KV)

Chef [illegible] — despite the "R" for language — fun with the story [illegible] chef [illegible] (Jon Favreau, who also writes and directs), [illegible] (Oliver Platt), [illegible] (Dustin Hoffman), who [illegible] a [illegible] food truck. [illegible] (115 min.) (KV)

A Coffee in Berlin [illegible] indie-flavored [illegible] the misadventures of Niko (Tom Schilling) [illegible] through a particularly [illegible] day in the title city. [illegible] with a chip on her shoulder (Friederike Kempter), a [illegible] (Katharina Schüttler), and [illegible]. The running gag [illegible] Niko can never quite come up with the [illegible] price of a cup of coffee. [illegible] (88 min.) (KV)

Edge of Tomorrow Major William Cage (Tom Cruise) [illegible] in a time loop [illegible] alien [illegible] (Emily Blunt) [illegible] defeating the enemy. (113 min.)

The Fault in Our Stars [illegible] Grace Lancaster (Shailene Woodley), a 16-year-old cancer patient, [illegible] in love with Gus Waters (Ansel Elgort), a similarly afflicted [illegible] support group. (126 min.)

Godzilla [illegible] summer special-effects [illegible] and especially for [illegible] giant-monster flicks, which [illegible] campy laughs. The King of the Monsters is back, to [illegible] Tokyo, Honolulu, Las Vegas, and San Francisco [illegible] "restoring the balance in nature," [illegible] Taylor-Johnson, [illegible] between Kan-

Waterston [illegible] the story. Above the Earth [illegible] you (123 min.) (KV)

The Grand Budapest Hotel [illegible] early 20th-century Middle Europe with this [illegible] hotel concierge (Ralph Fiennes, in top form), [illegible] Hollywood. As usual with [illegible] but the characters are [illegible], beginning with Fiennes' [illegible] Gustave and [illegible] the economic [illegible] country of Zubrowka, played by Tony Revolori. [illegible] Tilda [illegible] Willem Dafoe, Jeff Goldblum, Harvey Keitel, Jude Law, Bill Murray, [illegible], Edward Norton, Tom Wilkinson, and many, many [illegible] Anderson's [illegible] (100 min.) (KV)

The Grand Seduction [illegible] of Tickle Head, Newfoundland [illegible] doctor [illegible] Brendan Gleeson [illegible] Dr. Paul Lewis (Taylor Kitsch). He and the [illegible] the doctor to stay permanently. (115 min.)

How to Train Your Dragon 2 [illegible] Hiccup and Toothless [illegible] wild dragons, and a mysterious dragon rider who turns out to be Hiccup's [illegible] (Cate Blanchett). They then find themselves at the [illegible] of a battle to protect the peace on the island of Berk. (102 min.)

Ida Penetrating, [illegible] [illegible] as a [illegible] with two women in 1960s, Communist-ruled Poland — the eighteen-year-old [illegible] Anna (Agata Trzebuchowska) and her aunt Wanda (Agata Kulesza) [illegible] Pawel Pawlikowski's [illegible] A [illegible] character study [illegible] (80 min.) (KV)

The Immigrant After her sister is quarantined on Ellis Island, a Polish nurse [illegible] into prostitution by a theater manager (Joaquin

Phoenix) [illegible] (117 min.)

Ivory Tower [illegible] Andrew Rossi, maker of Page One: Inside the New York Times, turns his [illegible] at public [illegible] higher education [illegible] documentary is not [illegible] (97 min.) (KV)

Jersey Boys In the 1950s, four young men from the wrong side of the tracks in New Jersey — Frankie Valli (John Lloyd Young) and [illegible] Nick Massi (Michael Lomenda) [illegible] (Vincent Piazza) — come together to form the [illegible] group The Four Seasons [illegible] and professional problems [illegible] group apart. (134 min.)

Maleficent Disney's [illegible] of its [illegible] Sleeping Beauty [illegible] Maleficent, the [illegible] of that tale (here played by Angelina Jolie), is really a wronged fairy princess on the losing side of a war between the [illegible] world she belongs to and the [illegible] kingdom of her [illegible] boyfriend, Stefan (Sharlto Copley) [illegible] Aurora, the sleeping beauty (Elle Fanning) [illegible] (97 min.) (KV)

Obvious Child Extremely indie [illegible] (Jenny Slate) [illegible] [illegible] As conceived by director Gillian Robespierre and writers Karen Maine, Elisabeth Holm, and Anna Bean, the [illegible] [illegible] (85 min.) (KV)

The Rover Twenty-[illegible] loner (Guy Pearce) hunts down the [illegible] the [illegible] Australian Outback [illegible] "10 years after the collapse." [illegible] director David Michôd (who made the excellent Animal Kingdom) [illegible] Joel Edgerton [illegible] (Robert Pattinson) [illegible] (102 min.) (KV)

The Signal While on a road trip, computer [illegible] (Brenton Thwaites) and his two [illegible] everything suddenly goes dark. [illegible] being held captive as part of a [illegible] plot. (97 min.)

Supermensch: The Legend of Shep Gordon This [illegible] Mike Myers (Wayne's World, Austin Powers) [illegible] Hollywood [illegible] Shep Gordon has [illegible] sex, drug, and rock 'n' roll stories to tell and [illegible] Michael Douglas, Alice Cooper, Sylvester Stallone, and Sammy Hagar. [illegible] (85 min.) (KV)

Think Like a Man Too When the [illegible] married in Las Vegas for [illegible] wedding, [illegible] (106 min.)

Words and Pictures [illegible] English [illegible] (111 min.)

X-Men: Days of Future Past [illegible] Hugh Jackman [illegible] McKellen [illegible]

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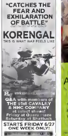

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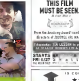

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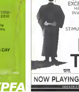

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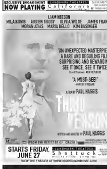
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robots and partly to stem the world-roaming but overzealous Mutants. So we receive this as a political fantasy set in the Nixon days, written (and published as a comic) during the Reagan presidency; then produced as a movie in the Obama administration … or as a furiously inventive sci-fi entertainment. Take your pick, either way you win (131 min.). (KV)

ONE-NIGHT STANDS

THURSDAY JUNE 26

Three Men and a Laptop: Part 2 (80 min., 2014). Presented alongside Three Men and a Laptop: Part 1. [illegible] (New Parkway Theater, Oakland, 5:00)

[illegible] (4[illegible] min., 2014). FrameLine38 (Rialto Cinemas Elmwood, 7:00)

The Story of the Last Chrysanthemums (142 min., 1939). Kenji Mizoguchi: A Cinema of Totality (Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive, Berkeley, 7:00)

Pitfall (84 min., 1948). (The Magick Lantern, Point Richmond, 7:30)

The Secret Life of Walter Mitty (114 min., 2013). Waterfront Flicks (Jack London Square Ferry Lawn, Oakland, sundown)

Fixed: the Science/Fiction of Human Enhancement (61 min., 2013). Temescal Street Cinema (49th Street and Telegraph Avenue, Oakland, 8:45)

[illegible] (134 min., 1990). (UA Berkeley 7, 8:00)

Ghost (126 min., 1990). Parkway Classics (Parkway, 9:30)

Out in the Night (75 min., 2014). FrameLine38 (Rialto Cinemas Elmwood, 9:00)

FRIDAY, JUNE 27

[illegible] (88 min., 1980). [illegible] Presents Masterpieces of Polish Theatre (BAM/PFA, 7:00)

In Motion: Amiri Baraka (80 min., 1983). Third World Films of Resistance and Solidarity (Eastside Cultural Center, Oakland, 7:00)

Waiting for Guffman (84 min., 1996). Rude Awakening: American Comedy, 1990-2010 (BAM/PFA, 8:50)

SATURDAY, JUNE 28

The [illegible] Planet (85 min., 2013). (The Magick Lantern, 2:30)

[illegible] (85 min., 2013). Co-presented by the American Institute of [illegible] East Bay Chapter (Parkway, 3:00)

The 47 Ronin, Parts I and II (219 min., 1941-42). Kenji Mizoguchi: A Cinema of Totality (BAM/PFA, 6:00)

Godzilla vs. Biollante (104 min., 1989). Giant Monster Night 3 (BAL Theatre, San Leandro, 7:00)

SUNDAY, JUNE 29

Take Aways (67 min., 1961-1991). Picture Book Theatre: Children's Books on Film (BAM/PFA, 3:30)

Groundhog Day (101 min., 1993). Rude Awakening: American Comedy, 1990-2010 (BAM/PFA, 6:00)

MONDAY, JUNE 30

A Small Family Business (190 min., 2014). Presented by National Theatre Live (Rialto Cinemas Cerrito, 7:00)

TUESDAY, JULY 1

Basketball Jones: The Pete Newell Story (75 min., 2014). Postfilm Q&A with film producer Doug Harris (Parkway, 7:00)

King Lear (180 min., 2014). Presented by National Theatre Live (Rialto Cinemas Elmwood, 7:00)

WEDNESDAY, JULY 2

The Untold History of the United States—Chapter 8: Reagan, Gorbachev & Third World Rise of the Right (57 min., 2012). (Humanist Hall, Oakland, 7:30) ■

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WORDS AND PICTURES
(2:00) 7:00 PG-13 Ends Tuesday!

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A SMALL FAMILY BUSINESS
THE CURIOUS INCIDENT OF THE DOG IN THE NIGHT-TIME

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FRI-SAT 3:15 10:10 (2D)
SUN-TUE 11:45 7:00 (3D)
SUN-TUE 3:15 (2D)

CHEF (R)
*Shown Upstairs
FRI-TUE 12:00 2:30 5:00 7:30, 9:45

HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON 2 (PG)
FRI-TUE 2:20 7:15 (3D)
FRI-TUE 11:45 4:45 9:30 (2D)

JERSEY BOYS (R)
FRI-TUE 1:00 4:00 7:10 10:00

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A LIFE LIVED BACKWARD

True Life Trio unveils a sample of its most ambitious project yet.

By Andrew Gilbert

The trio's new work combines Eastern European tunes, poetry, movement, and original music.
April Renae

The members of True Life Trio are trying to unravel the mysterious ties between music and memory. Leslie Bennett (voice, fiddle, percussion), Briget Boyle (voice, guitar, percussion), and Juliana Graffagna (voice, bass, percussion) are all former members of Kitka, an innovative all-woman vocal ensemble. In True Life Trio, the three musicians expand upon that group's hair-raising repertoire of traditional Eastern European and Balkan songs with gorgeous three-part harmonies and finely crafted arrangements of Cajun, Appalachian, and even Mexican standards for an improvisation-laced sound that's rowdy, rootsy and unabashedly beautiful.

After a fairly quiet year, the trio is in the midst of creating its most ambitious work yet, "Like Never and Like Always: A Memory Project." A site-specific song cycle designed to unfold as a life lived backward, the piece is slated to premiere in November as part of Laura Inserra's concert series at Berkeley Rose Labyrinth, which is located in Grace North Church and provided some of the inspiration for the project.

"The initial idea was to create a seamless sonic journey, and then we saw the labyrinth," Boyle said. "We thought that we could move through it, singing about how life shifts and changes and turns, and how memories are created. We've been fleshing out the idea about how perception can shift through the years, the way that we remember things differently as we change."

Seeking to fund a matching grant from the East Bay Community Foundation, True Life Trio has launched an Indiegogo campaign to raise $5,700, and on Thursday will offer a sneak preview of the work-in-progress at a fundraiser at Studio Grand, which will also feature special guest percussionist Dan Auvil, a top secret Balkan brass band, and a solo set by oud master Gari Hegedus (who's collaborating with the trio on the project).

Combining Eastern European tunes, poetry, movement, and original music, "Like Never and Like Always" takes the women far outside their comfort zone. While they usually accompany themselves in performance, they recruited the string wizard Hegedus, thinking it would be "interesting to be free of instruments, though Leslie will play the violin a bit," Graffagna said. "Gari can create these amazing textures with all these string instruments, underscoring our singing. He'll be writing music to help carry the story along. He's such a great improviser, with a combination of being rooted in tradition but also interested in experimentation."

In many ways, the urge to explore notions of identity and memory is inextricably tied to the musical passion that animates True Life Trio. In the East Bay, where the embrace of music and dance from West and Central Africa and their diasporic descendants in Cuba, Brazil, and Jamaica is so common as to be unexceptional, the emotional pull of Eastern European music on people with few old world connections is an enigma in search of an explanation. As Graffagna put it, "Why did we American gals get so obsessed with this music that's so foreign to us?"

Boyle's Balkan music epiphany was "like an out-of-body experience," she said. The daughter of the respected LA singer-songwriter Karen Tobin and recording engineer Tim Boyle, she started writing songs at age thirteen, and played guitar in various pop and jazz combos through high school. She first heard Balkan music during a brief stint in college in Santa Fe, and ended up moving to Oakland in 2005 specifically to join Kitka. Immersing herself in the vocal traditions of Greece, Turkey, Macedonia, Bulgaria, Albania, and other Eastern European cultures at the Balkan Music and Dance Workshops in Mendocino, she discovered she had a knack for the music's thick, astringent harmonies and irregular meters.

"At first I was really green and didn't know anything about the music," Boyle said. "I would make up harmonies and sing a third above, because that's what you do in country music. But when I got into the scene, I was really welcomed into the family by Julia and the musicians in Brass Menazeri."

Show Details
True Life Trio performs at Studio Grand (3234 Grand Ave., Oakland) on Thursday, June 26, 8 p.m., $20. TrueLifeTrio.com

In 2004, as Boyle joined Kitka, Bennett was just on her way out after a six-year stint in the group, looking to focus more on playing Cajun and Scandinavian fiddle (she performs with fiddler Jim Finn at Ashkenaz's annual New Year's Eve Balkan Bash). A lifelong musical explorer who has delved into the ancient songs of Transylvania and performed new music by Pauline Oliveros, Bennett rejoined Kitka from 2007 to 2012 until True Life Trio became her primary creative vehicle.

For Graffagna, who grew up outside of Chicago, a passion for Eastern European music was more of an acquired taste than a revelation. Having been deeply involved in music as a teenager, from studying piano to singing in musical theater and church choir, she studied Russian in college without being particularly smitten by the music. After moving out to the Bay Area in 1987, Graffagna on a whim answered an open audition ad placed by Kitka in the *Express*.

She joined the ensemble, which was already about a decade old, and for quite some time "was on the fence about the group. The music felt so strange and foreign," said Graffagna, who ended up co-directing the ensemble with Shira Cion and Janet Kutulas from 1997 to 2010. "But after several years it got under my skin. I started going to Balkan music camps put on by the Eastern European Folklife Center and found it so satisfying to sing this music. Once I started dancing, the rhythms really came to life."

True Life Trio came together about four years ago, when Graffagna was looking for a creative outlet after leaving Kitka. She also performs with the inventive Near Eastern quintet Janam, but was missing singing harmonies with other women. A few informal get-togethers with Boyle and Bennett found the women walking around Lake Merritt after singing together — an activity they enjoyed so much they decided to launch a new band. It didn't take long to settle on a "nice, tidy simple and descriptive name," Boyle said. "This is like life. You get together with friends, take a walk, and sing."

The group raised its profile considerably in 2012 with a concise seven-song debut CD, *Home*, which captures the band's far-flung repertoire. From the stirring Albanian tale "Malun Mane" to a haunting rendition of the Mexican ballad "La Llorona" to Cajun standard "Old Time Waltz," True Life Trio creates music steeped in tradition but crafted in its own image.

"It felt very freeing to be starting this group from scratch," Boyle said. "Leslie has been playing Cajun music for a long time, and she roped us into doing a couple of shows with her. We're branching out to do more Americana. We'd never heard each other sing in English before! I'm starting to write some more music, and it's a natural forum to showcase that. And the world of Eastern European music is so vast. On paper it can look like too much of a hodgepodge, but it kind of works. We program shows like a journey, and the continuity is our voices." ●

Editor@EastBayExpress.com

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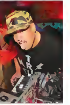
THE PARTY THAT NEVER ENDS

The monthly event NVR OVR pushes aural boundaries and attracts hundreds of followers.

By Jessie Schiewe


Lucia Carroll & Zach Konkovey/East Fete

NVR OVR founder Marty Aranaydo (aka DJ Willie Maze)

It's Saturday night at The Layover and the bar is close to maximum capacity. People of all ages are crammed onto the tiny dance floor, their foreheads glistening with sweat as they shake and bob to the music. A gaggle of girls start twerking in a corner and a young couple lock lips on a couch. Squelchy slap-bass and booming 808s pulse from the speakers as the DJ spins a mélange of trap, rap, dub, and electronica beats. More people filter in. Space becomes even tighter. Bodies collide. Cocktails are spilled. But the party keeps going. Welcome to NVR OVR.

Every fourth Saturday, The Layover hosts one of the most lively parties in Oakland, called, appropriately enough, NVR OVR. The massive dance party attracts a few hundred people every month and often lasts until 2 a.m. NVR OVR founder Marty Aranaydo (aka DJ Willie Maze) and resident DJs Starter Kit and Neto187 (of Trill Team 6 and Sick Sad World) are known for spinning tracks spanning a variety of genres and eras. Local DJs and musicians such as Antwon, Main Attrakionz, So What, RNE Millionaires, Nanosaur Pony Loco and Bobby Feru are regular attendees and it's not unusual for them to perform as well. Aranaydo also designs and sells a new NVR OVR T-shirt every month, and up until recently the ladies of local nail polish company Floss Gloss provided in-house manicures.

When you go to a NVR OVR party, chances are you'll hear music the likes of which you've never heard before — or even knew existed. Though the bulk of the music is rooted in rap and hip-hop, much of it is so eclectic, obscure, and hybridized that it's impossible to categorize it. Aranaydo usually starts the night off with a few recognizable hip-hop and R&B jams from the Nineties and early Aughts. But as the night progresses, so too does the music, into stranger and more eclectic spaces, and before you know it, you're being regaled with juke, dubstep, trap, drill, based, hyphy, ghetto house, moombahton, screw club 2-step, and trillwave. "We try to expose the community to new sounds that they may not be familiar with," said NVR OVR DJ Daryl "Starter Kit" Hutchinson, who has a reputation for playing songs plucked from the depths of the Internet. "One of my goals is always to make somebody want to come up and ask me, 'Hey, what track is that? I've never heard it before.'"

Event Details
NVR OVR happens Saturday, June 28 (and every fourth Saturday) at the Layover (1517 Franklin St., Oakland). 9 p.m., free. OaklandLayover.com

NVR OVR's commitment to pushing aural boundaries and maintaining an inclusive, welcoming vibe has helped amass a strong base of supporters who attend every party and proudly wear their NVR OVR T-shirts around town.

Aranaydo, who grew up in East Oakland and was a founding member of the activist group Local 1200, has been working as a DJ in the Bay Area since his early teens. For roughly a decade, he spun at houses, warehouses, and clubs under the name Willie Maze, and it wasn't until 2008, while registering for a blog account, that he came up with the moniker NVR OVR.

According to Aranaydo, NVR OVR is a riff on the line *To the hip hop hop and you don't stop* from the well-known 1979 *Sugar Hill Gang* song "Rapper's Delight." From a visual standpoint, Aranaydo said he liked the graphic design possibilities that the simple three-letter words offered, and from a musical standpoint, he liked that the name alluded to hip-hop, but wasn't shackled to it.

"It's not naming a style of music," he said. "By taking the 'h' word out of it, I had more possibilities."

Also in 2008, Aranaydo DJed a party at Eli's Mile High Club that he called NVR OVR. Two years later, he designed a T-shirt to commemorate the ten-year anniversary of the death of his close friend and mentor, graffiti artist Mike "DREAM" Francisco, and added his first-ever NVR OVR logo on the back.

"It was kind of like this umbrella for all my creative projects," said Aranaydo. "What they were gonna become and what they were gonna do, I didn't know, but I knew something was gonna happen."

By 2012, when the owners of The Layover invited him to DJ at their bar, Aranaydo already knew what he'd call his night. At that point, NVR OVR had become more than just a name or a clever reference to a famous song — it was Aranaydo's brand and mission statement rolled into one. "We're going to keep evolving and keep discovering new and interesting things," he said. "We're gonna do that shit forever." ■

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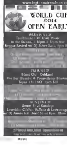
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CD REVIEWS

MAXIMUM EMOTIONS

Shuddering pop-metal, heady R&B, and soul-infused sensitivity.

Mastodon

Once More 'Round the Sun

When Mastodon released its debut, the aggressive and razor-sharp *Remission*, it seemed unlikely that the Atlanta band would go on to become one of the most successful metal acts in the country. And yet, a dozen years later, that's exactly what happened, largely because the band eventually found a more progressive, melodic, and accessible sound. The shift inevitably disappointed some early fans but it also helped grow Mastodon's fanbase exponentially.

On *Once More 'Round the Sun*, the band's sixth album, Mastodon seems to be attempting to strike a balance between its earlier, heavier material and more recent, expansive stuff. Opener "Tread Lightly" juxtaposes a vaguely Middle Eastern-sounding guitar melody with shuddering, bottom-heavy riffs and a soaring chorus that's ripe for sing-alongs. That's followed by "The Motherload," whose serpentine riffs slither between Brann Dailor's muscular beats and clean vocals. "High Road" begins with a satisfyingly rumbly and meaty hook but then segues into an incredibly poppy, radio-friendly chorus — a transition that's a bit jarring. Similarly, "Ember City" has a creepy, sinister-sounding riff for the verses, but the chorus is all floating and dreamy.

Once More 'Round the Sun is certainly technically impressive and full of memorable hooks, and will probably help further solidify Mastodon's status as hard rock royalty, but the overall result still feels a bit boring at times. When performing live, the members mostly concentrate on playing their instruments, as if all that psychedelic proggyness gets in the way of them actually rocking out. It sort of makes you miss all that inaccessible grinding.

— *Kathleen Richards*

How to Dress Well

"What Is This Heart?"

In 2009, when Tom Krell began releasing mixtapes of lo-fi, abstract, sentimental slow jams under the moniker How to Dress Well, he helped usher in an era of so-called "alt R&B." On his first two albums, his music was full of pain, despair, and longing — but the actual content of his lyrics was often indecipherable, which made it feel as though he was deliberately holding back. *"What Is This Heart?"* marks a striking departure from his past work. For one, Krell's trademark falsetto is much clearer and more vulnerable-sounding than ever before. And whereas his previous albums were minimally produced, *"What Is This Heart?"* sounds as though Krell and producer Rodaidh McDonald agonized over every note for maximum emotional effect.

Opener "2 Years On (Shame Dream)" begins as a sparse, heavy lullaby, and after thirty seconds of near silence, Krell begins singing over a strummed guitar about how his parents dealt with the fact that his older twin brothers are autistic: *Yet no one ever told you life would be this unfair, but oh it is/Yet no one would ask this for themselves*. It's stirring and beautiful. On the rest of the album, Krell — who is a Ph.D candidate in philosophy at DePaul University — explores godlessness, intimacy, mortality, and, most often, love.

Sonically, it's entertainingly varied. "Face Again" sounds like densely atmospheric futuristic R&B, with its booming bass line, icy synths, and distorted vocals. "Precious Love" verges on soft rock, while "Very Best Friend" is more upbeat, nearly bouncing into dance-floor territory.

Throughout, Krell remains admirably confessional and (somewhat surprisingly) relatable. It's one of my favorite albums of the year thus far. (Weird World/Domino)

— *Madeleine Key*

Lira

Rise Again

Singer, songwriter, model, and actress Lira has been a star in her South African homeland since she released her debut CD eleven years ago, and she subsequently picked up a devoted following in Europe for her sweetly sensitive soul-infused sounds. Since then, she's made four additional albums, of which *Rise Again* is the first issued in this country. Currently on a two-week US tour — her first ever — she may well be on the brink of becoming the most important South African vocalist to arrive on these shores since Harry Belafonte brought Miriam Makeba to New York more than a half-century ago.

Lira had a hand in writing all thirteen songs on *Rise Again*, ten of which she renders mostly in English, two in Zulu, and one in Xhosa. The warmth and jazz-imbued quality of her frequently inspirational odes have led some to liken her to Sade, yet her glowing mezzo tones are stronger and reflect the influence of American singers like Aretha Franklin and Nina Simone. Lira reprises several of her earlier South African hits, including the joyous and quite danceable "Feel Good." She is most powerful on ballads and shines brightest on "Something Inside So Strong," which combines the personal and the political with lyrics such as, *The higher you build your barriers, the taller I become. The further you take my rights away, the faster I will run.* (Shanachie)

— *Lee Hildebrand*

Lira plays Yoshi's (1330 Fillmore St., San Francisco) on Sunday, June 29. 7 p.m. $23-$25. Yoshis.com

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DOWNSTAIRS: "LA DOLCE DISCO" ITALO + HOUSE + HI-NRG + FREESTYLE + MORE

FRIDAY THE 27TH (9PM) $7
LAST NITE "A 2000'S INDIE DANCE PARTY" DJ'S JAMIE JAMZ & EMUSE

DOWNSTAIRS: "BETWEEN THE SHEETS" R&B SOUL, FUNK, DISCO, NEW WAVE, POST PUNK, HIP HOP, RETRO 80'S, WEIRD AND MORE

SATURDAY THE 28TH (9PM) $10
ART VOID #2 WITH THE GOLDEN VOID, NEBERSLEDGE, THE PLANES OF SATORI VISUALS BY SCOTT TRAVIS JOHNSTON, VINTAGE CLOTHING AND RECORD SALE BY THE POWER PLANT

DOWNSTAIRS: "TRACTOR BEAM DANCE PARTY" SUB DOWN SPINS ROCK, PUNK, 2000 RAP HITS

MONDAY THE 30TH (9PM) $5
GOG NASTY, GREAT APES, JEFFERSON DEATH STAR, & LONG KNIVES

DOWNSTAIRS: MOVE ALONG NOTHING TO SEE HERE, NON COMEDY SHOW HOSTED BY JOEY DEVINE THEN DJ STAN LANE SPINS KITCHEN SINK SOUL BOTTOM 411 FROM 11PM TILL LATE

JULY

WEDNESDAY THE 2ND (9PM) $7
THE AMERICAS (MEMBERS OF THE VELVET TEEN), SUN VALLEY, GUN CLUB, HIGH WATER, & NEW LUNGS

DOWNSTAIRS: "HONKYTONK MATINEE" WITH HANDSOME HAWK 2014 TOUR DJs - SPINNING CLASSIC OUTLAW COUNTRY & HONKY TONK

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CONCERTS & CLUBS

THURSDAY 26

EAST BAY

Blues, Folk, & Country

The Blues Broads Freight & Salvage Coffeehouse, 8 p.m., $31-$37

Oakland Blues High Street [illegible] Cafe, 7 p.m., $30

Kelly McFarling w/ The [illegible] & Light [illegible], University of California Botanical Garden, 5:30 p.m., $15, $10 youth

The Kentucky Twostep Honkytonk on the Hill, 7 p.m., free

Michael [illegible] by Boot, 9 p.m., free

Experimental & Avant-Garde

Mills Center for Music & Audio Technologies, 5 p.m., $5-$20

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

Happy Hour feat. a rotating line-up of artists, The Marsh Arts Center, 7 p.m., free

Crunch Yoshi's Oakland, 8 p.m., $24

Bell [illegible] diverse jazz with guest vocalist singers, The Alley, 9 p.m., free

Rock & Pop

April and the Paradigm w/ [illegible], [illegible], and Audrey Howard and the [illegible], Stork Club, 8 p.m., $8

The Pyrophonics w/ [illegible] Rats, The Videos, and [illegible], 49's Mile High Club, 9 p.m., $5-$10

High Functioning Flesh w/ Americans and All Your Sisters, The Night Light, 9 p.m., $7

The Lost Hippies Starry Plough, 5-6:30 p.m., free

[illegible] Wheeled w/ Cris Jacobs, The Fox Theater, 8 p.m., $18-$25

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop

Berkeley Funk Night live funk, soul, hip-hop, jazz, and Latin music, Starry Plough, 9 p.m., free

Oak [illegible] feat. local hip-hop artists including [illegible] rappers, musicians, and poets, [illegible], 8 p.m., free

World, Latin, Reggae, & Reggaeton

[illegible] w/ [illegible] and [illegible] Band, [illegible], 9:30 p.m., $17, $20

Quartet w/ DJ [illegible], The Bear Patch, 8 p.m., $12, $20

[illegible] w/ [illegible] Ensemble, La Peña Cultural Center, 7 p.m., $12

Two Life Trio w/ Carl [illegible] and a secret [illegible] brass band, Studio Grand, 8 p.m., $20

SAN FRANCISCO

Blues, Folk, & Country

Bluegrass and Old-Time Jam Atlas Cafe, 8 p.m., free

Two Cafe Crunch & Blues, 7:30 & 9:30 p.m., $20

Crooked Road Plough and Stars, 9 p.m., free

Paper Bird w/ [illegible] & The [illegible], Bottom of the Hill, 9 p.m., $10

Southern Crunch on the Hill w/ [illegible], Great American Music Hall, 8 p.m., $18

Classical & Opera

San Francisco Opera presents: [illegible] w/ John [illegible] conducting, War Memorial Opera House, 7:30 p.m., $35-$397

San Francisco Symphony performs [illegible] w/ Michael [illegible] conducting, Davies Symphony Hall, 8 p.m., $15-$152

Experimental & Avant-Garde

[illegible] w/ [illegible] & Jane [illegible], The Verdi Room, 8:45 p.m., $12

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

Earth Ambassador w/ [illegible], Yoshi's San Francisco, 8 p.m., $40, $46

[illegible] McKibbin w/ [illegible], [illegible], 10 p.m., $5

The Slippery Slope w/ [illegible], 8:30 p.m., $5

Stompy Jones Top of the Mark, 7:30-10:30 p.m., $10

Rock & Pop

Dutch Uncles [illegible] Bimbo's 365 Club, 8 p.m., $50

Cherry Glazerr w/ [illegible], [illegible], and Joel Jerome, Slim's, 8 p.m., $12

Soul [illegible] w/ [illegible], Brick & Mortar Music Hall, 8 p.m., $8

[illegible] Band w/ The [illegible], Riptide, 7 p.m., free

[illegible] w/ Will [illegible], Make-Out Room, 7 p.m., $8

Michael and the Strange Land w/ [illegible] Cranes and Vision [illegible], Hemlock Tavern, 8:30 p.m., $7

Moonalice w/ [illegible], [illegible] Step, 10 p.m., $15

[illegible] w/ [illegible] Collapse, [illegible] and DJ [illegible], 8 p.m., $8

Steve Austin w/ Jay and [illegible], Hotel Utah, 8 p.m., $10

The Socialites w/ [illegible], and The [illegible], 8 p.m., $5

[illegible] w/ The [illegible] Friendly, The Independent, 8 p.m., $18

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop

[illegible] w/ 7th Wonder, Rhapsody, and DJ Revolution, Mighty, 10 p.m., $20, $45

The M-Set w/ Dutch Crunch spinning Northern Soul, sweet soul, ska, and Latin [illegible], Amnesia, 9:30 p.m., $7

Good Luxury w/ Talib [illegible], Temple, 9 p.m., $40

FRIDAY 27

EAST BAY

Blues, Folk, & Country

El Alegre w/ [illegible] Danielson [illegible], [illegible] Hope Hat, and [illegible], 924 Gilman, 8 p.m., $7

[illegible] Hawk's [illegible] Swing [illegible], [illegible], and [illegible], Starry Plough, 8 p.m., $7, $10-$00

Jesse [illegible] w/ Fresh Juice Party, Subterranean, 8 p.m., $10-$15

[illegible] Lauderdale w/ The Easy Leaves, Freight & Salvage Coffeehouse, 8 p.m., $31, $26

[illegible] Zydeco Eagles Hall, 8 p.m., $15

Gospel & Vocal

The Music & Arts [illegible] Music Circle Love [illegible], 7 p.m., free

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

[illegible] Magic [illegible], 8 p.m., free

Dave [illegible] [illegible], 8:30 p.m., free

Lisa [illegible] [illegible], Sound Room, 8 p.m., $20

Lisa Wallace Fifth Street Farms, 7:30 p.m., [illegible]

[illegible] Craig Trio Cafe [illegible], 8 p.m., free

[illegible] and [illegible] Symphony Trio 57th Street Gallery, 8:30 p.m., $16

Rock & Pop

Animal Adult w/ Yearbooks, Wax, and Everybody Now, 1-2-3-4-Go! Oakland, 7 p.m., free

Crunch Committee w/ The She's and [illegible] Cohen Vipers, [illegible] Cafe, 9 p.m., free

[illegible] w/ [illegible] Brown, [illegible], 49's Mile High Club, 7 p.m., $5-$10

Sarah McLachlan Greek Theatre, 8 p.m., $39.50-$69.50

[illegible] w/ Great Parade and [illegible], Stork Club, 8 p.m., $8

Moonalice w/ [illegible], [illegible], [illegible] Torture Chamber, [illegible] and [illegible], Oakland Metro Operahouse, 8:30 p.m., $12

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop

Sweet Club Oakland w/ [illegible] Kane and [illegible], and [illegible] performers, The Legionnaire Saloon, 8 p.m., $10

[illegible] 8 p.m., free

Wreck & Reference play the Great American Music Hall on 7/2

PICKS

Robyn + Röyksopp
Robyn and Röyksopp are among Sweden's greatest dance music exports. In 2010, Robyn released the *Body Talk* series, an epic trilogy of fierce dance-floor pop albums with song titles such as "Dancing on My Own," "Don't Fucking Tell Me What to Do," and "Fembot." The duo Röyksopp has been putting out experimental, emotional, dancey electronic music since the early 2000s. Robyn and Röyksopp recorded a few tracks together in 2009 and 2010, and earlier this year, they released an excellent mini-album, titled *Do It Again*, that capitalizes on her voice and their weird, propulsive beats. At Bill Graham Civic Auditorium (99 Grove St., San Francisco), Robyn and Röyksopp will each perform a solo set before taking the stage together. Both acts are also known for having amazing set designs, so get stoked. — *Madeleine Key*

Saturday, June 28, 8 p.m. Sold out, but check Craigslist. BillGrahamCivicAuditorium.com

Art Void II
Art Void is a new collective of Bay Area musicians who play krautrock and progressive and psychedelic rock. It's also the name of a new event, held on the last Saturday of every month at The Night Light (311 Broadway, Oakland), that aims to highlight such bands while recreating the scene they draw inspiration from — 1970s-era German nightclubs. Art Void's second installment, which happens on Saturday, June 28, will feature local psych-rock band Golden Void, krautrock outfit Hedersleben, and psych-experimentalists Planes of Satori, as well as visual stimulation by Scott Travis Johnston, lighting by Kelly Porter, and vintage clothing and vinyl records for sale from The Power Plant. It should be a real futuristic/time-traveling experience. — *Kathleen Richards*

Saturday, June 28, 9 p.m., $10. TheNightLightOakland.com

Joe [illegible] Yoshi's Oakland, 8 & 10 p.m., $38-$43
[illegible] [illegible] Room, 8:30 p.m., free
Soulvation feat. [illegible], Jon Kay, [illegible], and [illegible] The New Parish, 9 p.m., $10, $20

World, Latin, Reggae, & Reggaeton

[illegible] Ashkenaz, 9 p.m., $10, $15

SAN FRANCISCO

Blues, Folk, & Country

[illegible] Hotel Utah, 9 p.m., $10
[illegible] Slim's, 9 p.m., $13-$15
[illegible] Zingari Ristorante, 8 p.m.-midnight, free
[illegible] Plough and Stars, 9 p.m., cover charge

Classical & Opera

San Francisco Opera presents Madame Butterfly War Memorial Opera House, 8 p.m., [illegible]
San Francisco Symphony performs Britten's Peter Grimes, w/ Michael Tilson Thomas conducting, Davies Symphony Hall, 8 p.m., [illegible]

Experimental & Avant-Garde

[illegible] The Independent, 9 p.m., $20

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

[illegible] 9 p.m., [illegible]
[illegible] Jazz Orchestra Top of the Mark, 9 p.m.-12:30 a.m., $10
[illegible] Atlas Cafe, 7:30 p.m., free

Rock & Pop

Dutch Uncles and The Glasspacks [illegible] Club, 8 p.m., $50
[illegible] w/ [illegible] Hemlock Tavern, 9 p.m., $6
[illegible] Brick & Mortar Music Hall, 9 p.m., [illegible]
[illegible] w/ Younger Lovers, [illegible] Mission Gallery, 8:30 p.m., $TBA
[illegible] w/ [illegible], Violent Change, [illegible] 9 p.m., $10, $12
[illegible] Lounge, 8:30 p.m., $8, $10
[illegible] Mission Gallery, 8 p.m., $12
[illegible] Yoshi's San Francisco, 8 p.m., [illegible]
[illegible] w/ [illegible] Neck of the Woods, 10 p.m., $8, $12
[illegible] w/ [illegible] Social House, 8 p.m., free
[illegible] The Regency Ballroom, 8 p.m., $20, $22
Young Widows w/ White Reaper and [illegible] Thee Parkside, 9 p.m., $10

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop

[illegible] w/ [illegible] Boom Boom Room 8:30 p.m., $12, $15
Lee Fields and and Expressions w/ [illegible] The Independent, 9 p.m., $25

SATURDAY 28

EAST BAY

All Ages

[illegible] Community Church, 7:30 p.m., $40

Blues, Folk, & Country

[illegible] Freight & Salvage Coffeehouse, 11:30 a.m., free
Ukulele Play-Along [illegible] Freight & Salvage Coffeehouse, 7 p.m., $10, $12

Experimental & Avant-Garde

Art Void [illegible] The Golden Void, Hedersleben, and The Planes of Satori, The Night Light, 9 p.m., $10
[illegible] Studio Grand, 10 p.m., [illegible]

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

[illegible] 9 p.m., free
[illegible] 8 p.m., $20
[illegible] 7:30 p.m., free
[illegible] The Alley, 9 p.m., free
[illegible] 7 p.m., free
[illegible] 8:30 p.m., $5

Rock & Pop

7 Seconds w/ [illegible] and La Plebe, Oakland Metro Operahouse, 7:30 p.m., $13
[illegible] The Night Light, 7 p.m., $12
[illegible] Starry Plough, 9 p.m., [illegible]
[illegible] 9:30 p.m., free
[illegible] 924 Gilman, 8 p.m., $10
[illegible] The Fox Theater, 8 p.m., [illegible]
[illegible] 9 p.m., $7
[illegible] Yoshi's Oakland, 7:30 p.m., $27

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C&C

[illegible]

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop

[illegible]

World, Latin, Reggae, & Reggaeton

[illegible]

SAN FRANCISCO

Blues, Folk, & Country

[illegible]

Classical & Opera

[illegible]

Gospel & Vocal

[illegible]

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

[illegible]

Rock & Pop

[illegible]

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop

[illegible]

SUNDAY 29

EAST BAY

Blues, Folk, & Country

[illegible]

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SUNDAY 6/29
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SOLGANIX, JEON EYE, MAX KANE

MONDAY 6/30
JAFFE EVENTS PRESENTS
BELANOVA

WEDNESDAY 7/02
CHRIS PUREKA

THURSDAY 7/03
MARA HRUBY

FRIDAY 7/04
RICH MEDINA

SATURDAY 7/19
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THE FOREIGN EXCHANGE

FRIDAY 7/25
KERMIT RUFFINS
AND THE BBQ SWINGERS
HOWELLDEVINE, MJ'S BRASS BOPPERS

THURSDAY 7/10
[illegible] PRESENT
LAS CAFETERAS
LAS BOMBERAS DE LA BAHIA, LA PELANGA, LIVE ART BY CULTUGESTRIKE

[illegible]
MIKE SEMPERT
SHAKE YOUR PEACE, KELLY MCFARLING

SUNDAY 7/20
[illegible]
LADIG
ANTIQUE NAKED SOUL, KNIGHT & GRAE

[illegible]
[illegible] PRESENTS [illegible]
RITTZ

SUNDAY [illegible]
[illegible] PRESENT
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SOL TEVEL

SAT 6/28
PURE X
SAM FLAX, M GEORGES GENERAS

WED 7/02
[illegible]
EVENODDS
HOSTED BY EQUIPTO, DJ B HOLLA

THU 7/03
SIT KITTY SIT
BENT KNEE, STRANGE HOTEL

MON 7/07
CLIPPING

FRI 7/18
[illegible]
NATURAL CHILD
COOL GHOULS, THE MIGAILS, MIDNIGHT SONS, DJ AL LOVER

SAT 7/19
LADIG
AIDHA FUKUSHIMA & RAPTIVISM, KNIGHT & GRAE

FRI 7/25
GEMS

SAT 7/05
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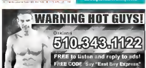
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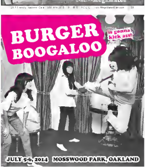
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C&C

Plough 9 p.m. free
Sunday Morning [illegible] Caffe Mediterraneum 10 a.m., free

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

[illegible] [illegible] Conservatory 4:30 p.m. $25
Jazz and R&B Night [illegible], 8:30 p.m. free
[illegible] [illegible] Cafe 1 p.m. free
Kelly Park Big Band [illegible], 1 p.m. $10
Lou Wong Ensemble High Street Station Cafe, 3-6 p.m. free
[illegible] [illegible] 8 p.m. $6

Rock & Pop

The [illegible] w/ [illegible] [illegible] High [illegible] 9 p.m., $8-$10
[illegible] Sunday different lineup each week, the Alchemy Lounge, 8 p.m., free

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop

Black Milk & Nat Turner w/ [illegible] 9 p.m. $12-$15
[illegible] Yoshi's Oakland, 7 & 9 p.m. $42

World, Latin, Reggae, & Reggaeton

7th [illegible] w/ [illegible] 9 p.m. $8, $10
Musical [illegible] La Peña [illegible], 3 p.m. free

SAN FRANCISCO

Blues, Folk, & Country

77 El Deora [illegible] 7:30 p.m., $-8
Ray [illegible] w/ [illegible], 9 p.m. $10
Crying Time w/ [illegible] Tires [illegible]side, 9 p.m., free
[illegible] [illegible], and Friends Plough and Stars, 6 p.m. free
Manjali [illegible] w/ [illegible] and [illegible] Wong, [illegible] Cafe 6 p.m., free
Possessed by Paul [illegible] w/ The [illegible] [illegible] Taylor [illegible], 7 p.m. $10, $12

[illegible] [illegible] 7 & 9 p.m. $15
Tony [illegible] Johnny Foley's Irish House 1 p.m. free

Classical & Opera

San Francisco Opera Presents Giuseppe Verdi's La Traviata w/ [illegible] War Memorial Opera House, 2 p.m., $23-$312
San Francisco Symphony performs [illegible] w/ [illegible] conducting, Davies Symphony Hall, 2 p.m., $15-$152

Gospel & Vocal

Gospel Brunch with [illegible] guests, 1806 on Fillmore, 11 a.m. & 1 p.m. $30 includes brunch

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

Sunday Sessions [illegible] host weekly guests [illegible] 9:30 p.m. free

Rock & Pop

[illegible] w/ [illegible], [illegible] of the Hill, 8 p.m. $15
[illegible] w/ [illegible], [illegible] of the Woods, 1 p.m. $8, $10
[illegible] w/ [illegible] Neighbor [illegible] 8 p.m. $7-$10
[illegible] Van Etten w/ [illegible] The Independent, 8 p.m. $20
[illegible] w/ [illegible] The Government, DNA Lounge, 7 p.m., $36-$42
[illegible] w/ [illegible] Hemlock Tavern, 9 p.m., $7

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop

Allen Dozen w/ [illegible], 2 p.m., free
[illegible] w/ [illegible] The Pull, [illegible], 1 p.m. $15, $18
[illegible] Yoshi's San Francisco 7 p.m. $23-$28
[illegible] and local [illegible], [illegible] musicians, and DJs, [illegible], 1 p.m. free

MONDAY 30

EAST BAY

Blues, Folk, & Country

[illegible] Songs of [illegible] Songs

of [illegible] & Smith, [illegible] and [illegible] Freight & Salvage Coffeehouse, 1 p.m. $18, $20

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

Art Lande & [illegible] [illegible] Company 8 p.m., $20
Craig [illegible] and [illegible] the Alchemy Lounge 9 p.m. free

Rock & Pop

[illegible] The New Parish, 9 p.m. $25, $45
[illegible] w/ [illegible] and [illegible], The Night Light, 8 p.m., $5
[illegible] w/ [illegible], 1-2-3-4 Go! Records, 7 p.m., $8
[illegible] w/ [illegible] Freight & Salvage Coffeehouse, 7:30 p.m., $23

SAN FRANCISCO

Blues, Folk, & Country

Bluegrass Mondays and [illegible] Amnesia, 1 p.m. free
[illegible] and [illegible] Cafe, 1 p.m. free

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

Le [illegible] Le Colonial, 7 p.m., free
[illegible]: The Alchemist [illegible] 7:30 p.m. $12

Rock & Pop

City of Women w/ A [illegible] [illegible] 8 p.m. $6
[illegible] w/ [illegible] and [illegible] Music Hall, 9 p.m., $9, $8
Sharon Van Etten w/ [illegible], The Independent, 9 p.m., $21
The [illegible] Yoshi's San Francisco 8 p.m. $36, $30

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop

[illegible] w/ [illegible] The Regency Ballroom 8 p.m. $89.50, $38

TUESDAY 1

EAST BAY

Blues, Folk, & Country

[illegible] Ashkenaz, 8:30 p.m., $10

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[illegible] Cafe [illegible] St. 415-[illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] Highway, 415-[illegible]
Bounty Bar 2700 Mission St. 415-[illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] St. 415-[illegible]
Bimbo's 365 Club [illegible] St. 415-474-0365
[illegible] 401 [illegible] St., 415-[illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] St., 415-673-[illegible]
Bottom of The Hill 1233 17th St., 415-621-4455
[illegible] Music Hall [illegible] St., 415-[illegible]
Brick & Mortar Music Hall 1710 Mission St., 415-[illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] Mission St. 415-[illegible]
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[illegible] 900 Vallejo St., 415-[illegible]

[illegible] 1190 Folsom St. 415-431-[illegible]
The Cellar [illegible] St. 415-[illegible]
The Chapel 777 Valencia St., 415-[illegible]
[illegible] Symphony Hall [illegible] Van Ness Ave. 415-864-6000
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Edinburgh Castle 950 Geary St. 415-885-4074
El Rio 3158 Mission St., 415-282-3325
[illegible] 847 Amnesia St. 415-[illegible]
The Eagle [illegible] 12th St. 415-[illegible]
[illegible] at The Phoenix [illegible] St., 415-[illegible]
The Fillmore 1805 Geary Blvd. 415-346-6000
[illegible] Music Hall [illegible] O'Farrell St. 415-[illegible]
[illegible] Tavern 1131 Polk St., 415-923-0923
[illegible] [illegible] St., 415-[illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] St., 415-[illegible]
The Independent 628 Divisadero St. 415-771-1421
Johnny Foley's Irish House 243 O'Farrell St., 415-954-0777
The Knockout 3223 Mission St., 415-550-6994
[illegible] Lounge [illegible] St. 415-[illegible]
[illegible] 3225 22nd St. 415-647-2888
[illegible] 444 [illegible] St. 415-[illegible]
Mighty 119 Utah St. 415-762-0151
Milk Bar 1840 Haight St. 415-387-6455
Monarch 101 6th St. 415-[illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] St., 415-[illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] California St. 415-[illegible]
[illegible] Brewery [illegible] Highway 415-[illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] St., 415-[illegible]
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[illegible] [illegible] St., 415-[illegible]
The Regency Ballroom 1300 Van Ness Ave. 888-[illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] Fell St., 415-[illegible]
The Rickshaw 3030 [illegible] St. 415-[illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] St., 415-[illegible]
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St. Cyprian's Episcopal Church 2097 Turk St. 415-567-1855
[illegible] Gallery [illegible] Mission St., 415-[illegible]
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[illegible] [illegible] St., 415-[illegible]
Temple 540 Howard St. 415-978-9942
[illegible] [illegible] St. 415-[illegible]
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Sun June 29 12pm, $5 w/ Canned Good
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Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

[illegible] and [illegible] [illegible] Piano Company, 8 p.m., $20
[illegible] [illegible] jazz with guest [illegible] singers, The Alley, 9 p.m., free
[illegible] Jupiter, 8 p.m., and
[illegible] Jupiter, 8 p.m., and

Rock & Pop

[illegible] w/ [illegible] [illegible] Grand, 9:30 p.m., $10-$15
[illegible] w/ Amalgamation and The Cosmic Perspective, Stork Club, 8 p.m., $8
The [illegible] Yoshi's Oakland, 8 p.m., $30

SAN FRANCISCO

Blues, Folk, & Country

[illegible] Cafe, 7 p.m., free
[illegible] Madrone Art Bar, 10 & 11:30 p.m., free
The [illegible] Madrone Art Bar, 7 p.m., and
[illegible] Edwards, 8:15 p.m., $18
[illegible] Thompson and the [illegible] & Blues, 7:30 & 9:30 p.m., $16

Classical & Opera

San Francisco Opera presents [illegible] w/ John DeMain conducting, War Memorial Opera House, 8 p.m., $23-$357

Experimental & Avant-Garde

[illegible] Madrone [illegible] Cafe, 8:30 p.m., free

Soul, Lounge, & Cabaret

The [illegible] Yoshi's San Francisco, 8 p.m., $22

Rock & Pop

[illegible] w/ [illegible] and [illegible], Hotel Utah, 8 p.m., $8-$10
[illegible] w/ [illegible] and The Albert Square, [illegible], 7 p.m., $6
[illegible] w/ Synthetic, [illegible], [illegible], and DJ [illegible], Boot & Saddle Music Hall, 8 p.m., free
[illegible] w/ [illegible], Bottom of the Hill, 8 p.m., sold out
[illegible] w/ [illegible] and [illegible] and the [illegible], [illegible], 8 p.m., $30
International [illegible] [illegible] Social House, 7 p.m., and
[illegible] w/ [illegible], Make-Out Room, 7:30 p.m., $8
Little Galaxies w/ [illegible] and [illegible], Bottom of the Hill, 9 p.m., $8
[illegible] w/ [illegible] The Regency Ballroom, 8 p.m., $19-$25
[illegible] w/ [illegible] The Light, [illegible], and DJ The Wizard, The Knockout, 9:30 p.m.
[illegible] w/ [illegible] and DJ [illegible], DNA Lounge, 9:30 p.m., $25, $20

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop

[illegible] w/ [illegible] and [illegible], [illegible], Hall of the Bench, 8:30 p.m., $19-$29

WEDNESDAY 2

EAST BAY

Blues, Folk, & Country

[illegible] Ashkenaz, 8 p.m., $7
[illegible] [illegible], 8 p.m., $12-$15
[illegible] tin whistle, flute, concertina, uilleann pipes, vocals, and bodhran w/ [illegible] / [illegible] Edwards, The Englewoods Saloon, 6:30 p.m., free
[illegible] Albatross Pub, 8 p.m., free

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

[illegible] and the [illegible] [illegible] Roadhouse, 8:00 p.m., and
[illegible] The Marsh Arts Center, 7 p.m., free
[illegible] [illegible] jazz with guest cabaret singers, The Alley, 8 p.m., free
Shelley Doty & [illegible] Freight & Salvage Coffeehouse, 8 p.m., $20-$23

Rock & Pop

The [illegible] w/ [illegible] Club, High Water, and [illegible], The Night Light, 8 p.m., $7
[illegible] and the [illegible] w/ [illegible], and [illegible], Stork Club, 9 p.m., $6
[illegible] w/ Old Devil Moon, The Uptown, 8 p.m., free
[illegible] w/ Def Leppard and Kiss and the [illegible], Concord Pavilion, 7 p.m., $18-$195
[illegible] and [illegible] Ashkenaz, 8 p.m., $12

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop

[illegible] funk [illegible] jam, The Layover, 10 p.m., free
[illegible] Yoshi's Oakland, 8 p.m., $29, $33

World, Latin, Reggae, & Reggaeton

Caribbean Night w/ Reggae [illegible] and DJ [illegible], Dorsey's Locker, 7-11 p.m., and

SAN FRANCISCO

Blues, Folk, & Country

[illegible] Biscuits & Blues, 7:30 & 9:30 p.m., $18
[illegible] & [illegible] Madrone Art Bar, 7 p.m., and
[illegible] w/ [illegible], Hotel Utah, 8 p.m., $10
[illegible] w/ [illegible] and [illegible], Bottom of the Hill, 9 p.m., $8
[illegible] Johnny Foley's Irish House, 9 p.m., free

Classical & Opera

San Francisco Symphony presents: [illegible] w/ [illegible] conducting, Davies Symphony Hall, 7:30 p.m., $35-$140
San Francisco Opera presents: [illegible] w/ John DeMain conducting, War Memorial Opera House, 7:30 p.m., $23-$357

Experimental & Avant-Garde

The [illegible] w/ [illegible] and guests, [illegible], 9:30 p.m., free

Jazz, Lounge, & Cabaret

[illegible] Amnesia, 8 p.m., and
[illegible]'s Jam Session [illegible], 10 p.m., and
[illegible] plays [illegible] jazz piano, Top of the Mark, 8:30-11:30 p.m., $10
The [illegible] Amnesia, 9 p.m., and

Rock & Pop

[illegible] w/ [illegible] and [illegible], Slim's, 8 p.m., $10
[illegible] w/ [illegible], [illegible] Music Hall, 8 p.m., $15
[illegible] w/ The [illegible], [illegible], and DJ [illegible], [illegible], 9 p.m., $8
[illegible] w/ [illegible] Yes, The Independent, 8 p.m., $15
[illegible] w/ [illegible] and [illegible], [illegible] Social House, 8:30 p.m., $8
[illegible] w/ The [illegible], [illegible], and The [illegible], [illegible], 8 p.m., $6
[illegible] and the [illegible] w/ [illegible] and New American Farmers, [illegible], 9 p.m., $8

Soul, Funk, R&B, & Hip-Hop

[illegible] [illegible] Music Hall, 10 p.m., $10-$15

Submissions for music listings should be e-mailed to Clubs@EastBayExpress.com or mailed to Clubs Editor, East Bay Express, 620 3rd St., Oakland CA, 94607. Deadline is 14 days prior to the event date.

Shelley Doty plays Freight & Salvage on 7/2

DJ & DANCE

THURSDAY 26

EAST BAY

Deep Cool Lounge 3411, 9 p.m., free

DJ [illegible] The Layover, 9 p.m., free

DJ [illegible] The Layover, 10 p.m., free

Fke Thursdays w/ DJs [illegible], Ex'pression, Era Art Bar and Lounge, 10 p.m., [illegible]

Strictly Vinyl bring your own vinyl to play, [illegible] Cafe, 7 p.m., free

Ultra Warm w/ DJs [illegible], Era Art Bar & Lounge, 9:30 p.m., STBA

SAN FRANCISCO

[illegible]

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[illegible]

FRIDAY 27

EAST BAY

[illegible] The Night Light, 9 p.m., free

[illegible]

and Latin, Dance and Bar, 9 p.m., free

[illegible]

Friday Night Salsa w/ guest and spinning salsa, La Estrellita Cafe, 10 p.m., $6

[illegible]

Last Nite: A 2Downtown Dance Party DJ [illegible] The Night Light, 10 p.m., $3 before 11 p.m., $10 after

A Night of Classic Hip-Hop free [illegible]

[illegible]

SAN FRANCISCO

[illegible]

SO SUPER SAM

Sosupersam spins at the New Parish on 6/28

[illegible]

SATURDAY 28

EAST BAY

[illegible]

SAN FRANCISCO

[illegible]

SUNDAY 29

EAST BAY

[illegible]

Deep Cool Lounge 3411, 4 p.m., free

SAN FRANCISCO

[illegible]

MONDAY 30

EAST BAY

[illegible]

SAN FRANCISCO

[illegible]

TUESDAY 1

EAST BAY

[illegible]

Low Down Cool Down Somar Bar & Lounge, 9 p.m., STBA

[illegible]

SAN FRANCISCO

[illegible]

WEDNESDAY 2

EAST BAY

[illegible] The Night Light, 9 p.m., free

[illegible]

SAN FRANCISCO

[illegible]

SAVAGE LOVE

OLD TIMES

Sexy times with a cousin and some swingers.

By Dan Savage

I'm a bit out of your usual demographic, age-wise (I'm seventy), but I am still an avid reader. (This is true: not a Penthouse letter.) My cousin and I have flirted and joked about getting it on together for about fifty years or more. Now she's divorced and having the time of her life. The other day, she told me what she'd really like is to have a "lesbian experience" with me watching and then joining. I'm so crazed with lust that I'm having a hard time thinking straight. This is a kinky dream come true! I love oral sex, and with two pussies to eat, etc., the whole thing sounds just great! What I don't know is how to contact someone to do this. I don't want someone who's got a disease or someone with a boyfriend just waiting to break in and rob everyone. How do I make contact with someone and then arrange such a thing? How would I ensure that my concerns are dealt with? Is using an escort service any guarantee of any degree of safety? I would love some good advice. Got any for me? If you answer, you can call me...

Old But Alive

"Good for you, OBA, for acknowledging that you'd love a lust-crazed encounter with your cousin and a third," said Joan Price, author of *Naked at Our Age: Talking Out Loud About Senior Sex*. "I hope you're indulging that lust with plenty of hot talk, make-out sessions, and role-playing as you figure out how to make your fantasy a reality."

I was going to let Price field this one solo, as she's the expert on senior sex. But I'm going to break in to note that while cousin-on/in-cousin action strikes many people as very deeply squicky, there's nothing illegal or dangerous about cousins — even first cousins — doing it. Indeed, first-cousin marriage is legal in 25 states (and legally recognized in all 50 states), and it's legal everywhere in Canada. And we're not talking about marriage. We're talking about scorching-hot seventysomething-on-seventysomething action between two people who share a grandparent.

Okay, OBA, back to Price's advice...

"Start hanging out at lesbian bars and other social venues," said Price. "Don't go in aiming to pick someone up right off the bat — you don't want to come across as predatory and creepy. Instead, go on a date with your cousin, dance, chat up women who are friendly. You could make great connections if you're open and take your time."

I gotta break in again. Loath as I am to contradict Price — who is my guest — don't hang out in lesbian bars, OBA. About the only thing lesbians hate more than opposite-sex couples prowling for "thirds" in their bars are sharp fingernails digging for clams in their pants. As soon as the other patrons realize that you're just another opposite-sex couple who feels entitled to lesbian space, attention, and pussy, you'll be out the door on your asses.

Okay, OBA, back to Price's advice for you...

"Another way to go, as you suggested, is to hire someone," said Price. "The advantage of a paid escort is that you can choose the woman and spell out exactly what fantasy you want her to provide. She'll be experienced, creative, and totally focused on your pleasure."

Breaking in again: Yes! Hire someone! You're seventy years old, OBA, and you've been waiting fifty years to get in your cousin's bloomers. Young couples complain about how hard it is to find a willing third — they're called "unicorns" for a reason — and forgive me for being ageist, but time is not on your side. Hire someone immediately — and hire someone older and someone who has been in the field for a while (look for reviews online), as they're less likely to rip you off or play you.

"As for getting a disease," concluded Price, "you will use safer-sex practices with either a paid escort or a new friend — that's a given! Don't even consider otherwise."

Breaking in one last time: Use condoms, Gramps, even if there's no risk of pregnancy, as condoms decrease your risk for contracting — or passing along — many STIs. (People always talk about sex workers as if they're the source of all STIs. But where do sex workers get STIs? From their clients.) But there's no way to eliminate the risk. You have to decide if the possible risk of contracting an STI is worth the certain reward of a three-way with your cousin. And I think we both know the answer to that question.

Joan Price blogs about sex and aging at NakedAtOurAge.com. Follow her on Twitter @JoanPrice.

My husband and I have been happy swingers for four years. Our issue? I'm pregnant. My husband had a vasectomy two years ago, and neither of us has wavered in our desire to remain childfree. We know the "father" is the male of a couple we play with regularly. We used protection, of course, but we know these things are never foolproof. We consider ourselves good friends with this couple, but we are not in any sort of "poly" relationship with them. Our question is this: Do we need to tell the couple about what happened and our decision to terminate the pregnancy? We wouldn't ask them to help pay for the procedure, and their feelings on the matter wouldn't change our course of action. We're just unsure about the "swinger etiquette" in this situation.

No Acronym Here

No method of birth control is foolproof — not even a vasectomy. There are numerous documented cases of men who've had vasectomies impregnating their female partners. There are no documented cases two years after a successful vasectomy... but what if your husband's vasectomy wasn't successful?

So it's possible that your husband fertilized that egg. You can cling to that small possibility and opt not to inform the other couple about your pregnancy and your decision to terminate. But I would urge you to tell them. Millions of men don't know that they have benefited from access to safe and legal abortion services because their female partners quietly terminated pregnancies without informing them.

You should also let him know that there's a small chance your husband impregnated you. Either way, you're terminating this pregnancy. ●

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[illegible] Way, Suite [illegible]
Orinda, CA 94563
(925) 253-1717
6/11, 6/18, 6/25/2014

Notice of Sale of Property
ESTATE OF JOHN [illegible]
CASE NO. RP[illegible]

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF ALAMEDA

[illegible]

APN [illegible]

[illegible]

Dated this 10th day of June, 2014, at Orinda, California.

[illegible]
HARTOG & BAER
A Professional Corporation
[illegible]
Orinda, CA 94563
(925) 253-1717
6/11, 6/18, 6/25/2014

Fictitious Business Statement
File # [illegible]

The following [illegible] is doing business as [illegible] [illegible] Oakland, CA [illegible] [illegible] This business is conducted by an individual. [illegible] This Statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda County on [illegible].
[illegible]
6/18, 6/25, 7/2, 7/9/2014

Notice of Sale of Property
ESTATE OF JOHN [illegible]
CASE NO. RP[illegible]

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF ALAMEDA

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned will sell at private sale to the highest and best [illegible], subject to confirmation of the Alameda Superior Court, on or after July 1, 2014, at the office of [illegible] Realty, 2520 [illegible] Street, Suite 23, Oakland, CA [illegible], all the right title and interest of the Estate of John [illegible] in and to all the certain real property situated in the City of Oakland, County of Alameda, State of California, particularly described as follows, to wit:

[illegible] Oakland, [illegible]

APN [illegible]

[illegible]

Dated this 10th day of June, 2014, at Orinda, California.

[illegible]
HARTOG & BAER
A Professional Corporation
[illegible]
Orinda, CA 94563
(925) 253-1717
6/11, 6/18, 6/25/2014

Notice of Sale of Property
ESTATE OF JOHN [illegible]
CASE NO. RP[illegible]

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF ALAMEDA

[illegible]

APN [illegible]

[illegible]

Dated this 10th day of June, 2014, at Orinda, California.

[illegible]
HARTOG & BAER
A Professional Corporation
[illegible]
Orinda, CA 94563
(925) 253-1717
6/11, 6/18, 6/25/2014

Fictitious Business Name Statement
File # [illegible]

The following [illegible] is doing business as [illegible] Berkeley, CA [illegible] This business is conducted by a General partnership. [illegible] This Statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda County on [illegible].
[illegible]
6/18, 6/25, 7/2, 7/9/2014

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME CASE NO. [illegible]

Superior Court of California, County of Alameda
1225 Fallon Street
Oakland, CA 94612

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner [illegible] filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: [illegible] THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted.

NOTICE OF HEARING: August 22, 2014 at [illegible] in Dept. [illegible] at 1225 Fallon St., Oakland, CA 94612

A copy of this Order To Show Cause shall be published at least once a week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: East Bay Express.

Dated: June [illegible], 2014
[illegible]
Judge of the Superior Court
6/18, 6/25, 7/2, 7/9/2014

Notice of Sale of Property
ESTATE OF JOHN [illegible]
CASE NO. RP[illegible]

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF ALAMEDA

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned will sell at private sale to the highest and best [illegible], subject to confirmation of the Alameda Superior Court, on or after July 1, 2014, at the office of [illegible] Realty, 2520 [illegible] Street, Suite [illegible], Oakland, CA [illegible], all the right title and interest of the Estate of John [illegible] in and to all the certain real property situated in the City of Oakland, County of Alameda, State of California, particularly described as follows, to wit:

Real property commonly known as [illegible] Street, Oakland, California.

APN [illegible]

Terms of sale cash in lawful money of the United States, on confirmation of sale. Ten per cent of amount bid to be deposited with bid. Bids or offers to be in writing and will be received at the aforesaid office at a time after the publication hereof and before the date of sale.

Dated this 10th day of June, 2014 at Orinda, California.

[illegible]
HARTOG & BAER
A Professional Corporation
[illegible] Way, Suite 200-B
Orinda, CA 94563
(925) 253-1717
6/11, 6/18, 6/25/2014

Fictitious Business Name Statement
File # [illegible]

The following individual is doing business as [illegible] Berkeley, CA [illegible] This business is conducted by an individual. [illegible] This Statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda County on [illegible].
[illegible]
6/4, 6/11, 6/18, 6/25/2014

Notice of Sale of Property
ESTATE OF JOHN [illegible]
CASE NO. RP[illegible]

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF ALAMEDA

[illegible]

APN [illegible]

[illegible]

Dated this 10th day of June, 2014, at Orinda, California.

[illegible]
HARTOG & BAER
A Professional Corporation
[illegible]
Orinda, CA 94563
(925) 253-1717
6/11, 6/18, 6/25/2014

Fictitious Business Name Statement
File # [illegible]

The following individual is doing business as Loom Technology [illegible] Oakland, CA [illegible] This business is conducted by a Limited liability company. [illegible] This Statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Alameda County on [illegible].
Loom Technology
6/4, 6/11, 6/18, 6/25/2014

COMMUNITY GATHERINGS

JaeMo Bereal "Art As Narrative"

A Retrospective, [illegible]
[illegible]
Oakland, CA
[illegible] Library
July 1 - July 26

Marine Mammal Center

[illegible] marinemammalcenter.org

Citizen Schools
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citizenschools.org

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NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE T.S. No. 0015-6744 TSG Order No. 1480151 A.P.N. 049-1321-079-00 NOTE: THERE IS A SUMMARY OF THE INFORMATION IN THIS DOCUMENT ATTACHED (The above statement is made pursuant to CA Civil Code Section 2923.3(c)(1). The Summary will be provided to Trustor(s) and/or vested owner(s) only pursuant to CA Civil Code Section 2923.3(c)(2).) YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 09/13/2005. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. NBS Default Services, LLC, as the duly appointed Trustee, [illegible] and pursuant to the power of sale contained in that certain Deed of Trust Recorded 09/19/2005 as Document No.: 2005400706, of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of Alameda County, California, executed by: ROSALYN A. COLLINS, AN UNMARRIED WOMAN, as Trustor, WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH (payable in full at time of sale by cash, a cashier's check drawn by a state or national bank, a check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, savings association, or savings bank specified in section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state). All right, title and interest conveyed to and now held by it under said Deed of Trust in the property situated in said County and state, and as more fully described in the above referenced Deed of Trust. Sale Date and Time: 07/02/2014 at 12:30 PM Sale Location: At the Fallon Street entrance to the County Courthouse, 1225 Fallon Street, Oakland, CA 94612 The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 1250 POWELL STREET #4, EMERYVILLE, CA 94608 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. Said sale will be made in an "AS IS" condition, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by said Deed of Trust, with interest thereon, as provided in said note(s), advances, if any, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, estimated fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust, to-wit: $499,317.43 (Estimated) as of 06/27/2014. Accrued interest and additional advances, if any, will increase this figure prior to sale. It is possible that at the time of sale the opening bid may be less than the total indebtedness due. NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call, (714)730-2727 for information regarding the trustee's sale or visit this Internet Web site, www.servicelinkASAP.com, for information regarding the sale of this property, using the file number assigned to this case, T.S.# 0015-6744. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. If the Trustee is unable to convey title for any reason, the successful bidder's sole and exclusive remedy shall be the return of monies paid to the Trustee and the successful bidder shall have no further recourse. NBS Default Services, LLC 301 E. Ocean Blvd. Suite 1720 Long Beach, CA 90802 800-766-7751 For Trustee Sale Information Log On To: www.servicelinkASAP.com or Call: (714)730-2727. NBS Default Services, LLC, Suzanne Castle This communication is an attempt to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. However, if you have received a discharge of the debt referenced herein in a bankruptcy proceeding, this is not an attempt to impose personal liability upon you for payment of that debt. In the event you have received a bankruptcy discharge, any action to enforce the debt will be taken against the property only. A-4464130 06/11/2014, 06/18/2014, 06/25/2014

What The

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Ad

gay (gā) **1.** there once was a time when all "gay" meant was "happy." then it meant "homosexual." now, people are saying "that's so gay" to mean dumb and stupid. which is pretty insulting to gay people (and we don't mean the "happy" people). **2.** so please, knock it off. **3.** go to ThinkB4YouSpeak.com

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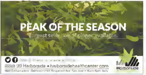
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